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Racist attack in B.C.

Vancouver Outrage is growing over the attempted murder of an East Indian family in a racist fire-bombing here.

Five hundred people marched in a rally organized by the BC Organization to Fight Racism (BCOFR) on January 4 to protest the burning of the Sidhu's family home the day before.

At 3:40 am. the family's living room window was broken, a five-gallon can of gasoline thrown inside and then set ablaze.

Fortunately for the eight family members, a 20-year old daughter was awake. She was able to throw the can back outside and wake the rest of the family. She saw two young men running away from the house.

The first floor of the house located in the Vancouver suburb of Delta, was completely gutted in the fire. Damage is estimated to be at least $10,000.

This is the most recent in a series of attacks on the Sidhu family.

"People are saying that there is no racism here, but they have been doing things to us ever since we moved here seven years ago," reports Balwinder Sidhu, the woman who sent out the alarm. "We have had to put in plexi-glass windows because the glass was broken so many times."

According to Balwinder, stones and eggs have been repeatedly thrown at their house, windows broken and the family verbally threatened. "But we won't get scared and move away."

This is the most serious attack on East Indians recently in the Vancouver area.

It comes in the wake of increasing racist attacks. Stone and egg throwing incidents are reported almost daily. East Indians have been threatened and even beaten up.

Meanwhile, the Ku Klux Klan, which has a notorious history of racist violence, has been active in the area. In Delta, several people including a former tenant of the Sidhu family report that they have been approached to join the Klan.

Police inaction in the face of these attacks has been scandalous. According to Charan Gill, president of the BCOFR, it usually takes several hours before police show up to the scene of these attacks. Arrests are almost never made.

The Sidhu family reported four stone-throwing incidents to police in the last year. In one case they were able to record the license number of the culprit's car. This allowed police to find them quickly, but they were never arrested.

Police still maintain the Sidhu family incident was not a racist attack. Delta police chief Doug MacCloud stated that racism is not a problem in the area and that there is "no pattern of violence" against minorities.

[Contract]

Concessions to overseas Indians

Bombay (UNI) - The plea of overseas Indians for certain exemptions form the rigours of the Foreign Exchange Regulations Act (FERA) relating to repatriation of funds to India would be viewed with sympathy, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has said. But at the same time she said it would not be possible for her Government to grant facilities that would "weaken our economy and harm our national interests."

Mrs. Gandhi made these observations while inaugurating, on January 14, the third All-India Convention of Overseas Indian Jaambo Association, a common forum of non-resident Indians, here.

Mrs. Gandhi said an in-depth study of the recommendations made by the study group appointed to consider the demands of overseas Indians was at present being made.

Mrs. Gandhi pointed out that the Government had already given some concessions to non-resident Indians. They were now allowed to purchase units of the Unit Trust of India and National Plan Certificates and were permitted to take back the dividends to the country of their residence. They were also allowed to invest in 19 industries up to 74 per cent of the capital in India. Similarly, any non-resident Indian was free to purchase one piece of immovable property in India.

Association President C.P. Shah had pleaded for the creation of a climate of confidence for more investments by Indians abroad.

Mr. Shah said the 12-year-old Association now had over 300 members from different parts of the world. The association now proposed to set up an Overseas Indian Centre in Bombay to attract non-resident Indians' investments in India and an Overseas Indian Development Corporation for investments in India by overseas Indians.

Mrs. Gandhi felt that Indian organisations abroad must come together at least on national issues.

"Indians should make a good name abroad. It is an honour for the country," she said.

INDIAN-MOROCCO CULTURAL ACCORD

New Delhi, (UNI) - India and Morocco have signed an agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation. This was signed by the Minister for Education and Culture S.B. Chavan, now on a visit to Morocco and the Moroccan Minister of Foreign Affairs, M'Hamed Boucetta.

Oil supplies consolidated

New Delhi, (UNI) - India has consolidated its position on the oil front with the completion of its world-wide oil hunt for the year 1981.

India has ensured for itself crude oil import of about 17 million tonnes for this year and if the turbulent Assam situation returns to normal and oil supply is resumed, India could save at least 1250 million dollars. The eastern region accounts for about 5 million tonnes of oil.

This year, India has so far signed contracts with Mexico 1.5 million tonnes, Algeria, Libya, Nigeria and Kuwait 0.5 million tonnes each, Abu Dhabi 1.5 million tonnes and Saudi Arabia 2.5 million tonnes.

Negotiations with the Soviet Union are on for supply of 2.5 million tonnes. Iran has agreed to maintain its normal oil supply to India.

The total crude oil demand for 1981 is expected to be around 32 to 33 million tonnes of which nearly 14 million tonnes will be indigenous production.

Besides, the import requirement of petroleum products for 1981 is 7.5 million tonnes and the Government has already made arrangements for meeting the demands up to February next. Besides spot purchase, it will import products from the Soviet Union, Kuwait and Bulgaria to meet the demand during the whole year.

Current shortage reported from certain parts of the country, particularly from North and North Eastern regions, is mainly due to transport problems. Otherwise, the country has built up sufficient inventory which could meet its requirements for another three months. It will draw now and then as per requirement from contracted parties.

According to official sources, the crude oil which is to be imported from Libya will be processed and imported as the percentage of crude content of Libyan crude is high.

With the recent increase in the oil price by the OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries), India's oil import bill is expected to go up by 1258 million dollars during 1981 from the present estimated figure of 625 million dollars.

The average cost of imported crude after the new prices came into effect from 1 January, is likely to be between 39.6 dollars to 40 dollars per barrel.

Meanwhile, the Government is likely to increase the prices of petrol and diesel as a sequel to the OPEC decision. Petroleum Minister P.C. Sethi had indicated in Parliament recently that the Government would have no other alternative but to put up the prices if the OPEC decided to do so.

The total burden by the oil industry because of the frequent increase in the international prices for petroleum, incidental costs, and borrowing from the financial institutions is about 3082.5 million dollars at current prices.

Wrong Indian in U.S. jail?

New Delhi, (UNI) - A former student from Gujarat, accused of theft by deception and jailed in the United States, claims the authorities "have got the wrong man."

"I am innocent. Help me," a New York journal quoted Bharat Kumar Patel, a former student of the New Jersey Institute of Technology, as saying.

According to Patel, Newark police took him for questioning on September 4, 1980, and charged him with theft by deception. A judge of the Essex country municipal court fixed the bail at 3,000 dollars and ordered him to be held until someone paid the amount. No one did, and 10 more charges were brought against him. Later, at another preliminary hearing, the bail amount was raised to 25,000 dollars.

The principal complainants in the case are American Airlines and several banks all over the US.

As Patel could not afford a lawyer, the state provided him with one Miss Cathy Wasserman. She said one of the charges against Patel was that he had committed theft by deception upon the Yorkwood Savings and Loan Association in Newark, "by creating cheques drawn on a Colorado Bank were genuine, to defraud the complainant of some 16,000 dollars".

According to nine other charges, she added, Patel had allegedly obtained airline tickets, paying for them by issuing cheques that were not genuine or on accounts which had been closed.

Payload for spacelab

Ahmedabad (Gujarat), (UNI) - The National Aeronautics and Space Agency (NASA) of the United States of America has approved inclusion of "Anuradha", a payload fabricated by the Indian scientists, on the third flight of the Spacelab scheduled to be launched in 1984.

"Anuradha", would be on board the spacelab for seven days.

UAR seeks concessions

New Delhi, (UNI) - The United Arab Emirates has sought tax concessions from India on its investments in the country.

The concessions have been sought in the context of India's recent offer to the oil-exporting developing countries (OEDC) to invest in some specified industries with upto 40 per cent of the equity of new ventures without linking it with technology transfer stipulation.

According to official sources, a high level UAE delegation at the Indo-UAE Joint Commission meeting here had pointed out that tax rates in India were very high. It also emphasised that the high tax rates will be a strong deterrent for UAE investment in India, particularly when there were no such taxes within UAE itself.

Popularising Indian cuisine

New Delhi, (UNI) - In a bid to have more people all over the world savour and slurp over the delectable Indian cuisine, the Indian Tourism Development Corporation is establishing chain of Indian Restaurants abroad.

Indian restaurants are coming up fast in Moscow, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, London, Athens, Seoul and Yugoslavia. Czechoslovakia already has an Indian restaurant run by ITDC, according to its chairman, S.K. Mishra.

Two hotel projects have recently been bagged by the ITDC in Iraq. The first of these two will be set up in Mosul as a four-star hotel with 250 rooms. The other lakeside resort at Dokan will be a three-star enterprise.

The first overseas project, the Lotus Ashok hotel in Limassol in Greece, is already under construction having a massive layout with all provisions to provide five-star hotel facilities. In addition there will be a traditional Greek "gossip durbar" or Diwania. Tanzania and Nigeria are other countries where tourist complexes are to be developed shortly.

Textile export agreement

New Delhi, (UNI) - India has signed a two-year agreement with Sweden for export of textile products, which will take the place of the one which expired on December 31.

The textile agreement has a product coverage of ten made-ups and garment items and is a multi-fibre one. Flexibilities in the operation of the quota levels are in the shape of carry-over and carry-forward subject to a maximum of five per cent.

The agreement for the year 1982 has been concluded on the assumptions that the multifibre arrangement will be reviewed.

By renewed agreement Sweden will grant quota free access to Indian items.

Freight rates cut down

Calcutta (West Bengal), (UNI) - The India-Pakistan-Bangladesh-United Kingdom Continent Conference has cut down the freight rates by 25 per cent on exports of woolen carpets from Calcutta to win over substantial woolen carpet cargo from the non-conference foreign lines from Bombay.

A team of Conference representatives recently visited various carpet trade centres in Europe to persuade the overseas buyers to book the cargo through conference shipping lines here.

This decision was taken because the non-conference lines operating from Bombay offered low rates to shippers and succeeded in snatching away the bulk from Calcutta.

Export of woolen carpet rolls from Calcutta has thus fallen from 14,000 rolls per month to 6000 to 7000 rolls per month.

Construction contract in Iraq

Bombay, (UNI) - An Indian private construction company has secured the largest ever overseas construction contract in Iraq valued at 562 million dollars.

The total value of the contract signed by the Continental Construction Private Limited with its consortium partner, the State Contracting Company for Water and Sewage Projects, Iraq, is 1,200 dollars.

According to the Managing Director of the Indian company C.L. Verma, an important feature of this turnkey project is that the design, soil investigation and coordination of the work execution of all the agencies would be carried out by his company. Work at the site would begin within three months and is to be completed within five years.

Rebuilding denied

New Delhi, (UNI) - A Tiberan spokesman has contradicted Chinese claims that Beijing helped renovate a famous monastery near Lhasa which was ruined during the cultural revolution.

The Dalai Lama's information office here said in a statement today that HAN officials in the Tibetan capital had, in fact, obstructed the Tibetans' efforts to rebuild the Gaden Monastery.

65 nations invited

New Delhi, (UNI) - India has decided to invite 65 nations to participate in the Fifth Triennale-India (international art festival held every third year) scheduled for November-December 1981.

The triennale, sponsored by the Lalit Kala Academi (officially sponsored art society) promises to be the largest exhibition of works of art ever presented in this country.

A seminar on the various disciplines of art, a festival of art and film shows on the subject from the participating countries will be the highlights of the Triennale.

Indian participation will be the largest as 60 artists were being invited to present their works at the Triennale.

Trade prospects studied

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), a government-owned institution in New Delhi, will shortly undertake a study of export prospects of some Indian products in three West Asian countries.

The countries are Jordan, Syria and Egypt and the products belong to four select commodity groups of agricultural implements, builders' hardware, diesel engines and parts and sewing machines.

Earlier, the IIFT had planned to study the market in Iraq also, but because of the continuing gulf war, it has been excluded.

The study will be under the aegis of the IIFT's export management development programme launched in 1975 in collaboration with the Swedish International Development Agency and the International Trade Centre. The programme aims at exposing young executives to the rigours of overseas marketing environment.

Joint ventures

New Delhi (UNI) - The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) has suggested to its Bangladesh counterpart the setting up of an apex organisation of jute exporting countries on the lines of oil Producing and Exporting Countries (OPEC).

Such a body can be used for increased cooperation between the two countries since 95 per cent of the world jute supply was controlled by these countries.

Both the Indian and Bangladeshi jute industry are keen on coming to mutually beneficial agreement on exports.

The first ever FICCI delegation led by its President K N Modi visited Dacca and met representatives of the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce, trade associations and other bodies.

Karmal lauds India

Kabul, (UNI) - India has been very effective in defusing tension in Southwest Asia, President Babrak Karmal of Afghanistan has said.

He stated that he evaluated India's role in the region "positively". He dispelled any notion of his government being lukewarm to India.

When told that India was finding lesser space in Government pronouncements and Afghan leaders' statements, he said this was not true. "We have been making repeatedly warm reference to India. Every Afghan ardently felt bound with the Indian people by deep-rooted historical relations.

The ties would continue to grow and be consolidated with the passage of time, he added.

Bid to increase gem exports

New Delhi, (UNI) - Gem and jewellery exports contributed the largest share of India's foreign exchange earnings.

India's export of gems and jewellery rose in value from 26 million dollars in 1965-64 to 908 million dollars during 1979-80.

About 99 per cent of these exports are accounted for by diamonds and precious and semi-precious stones.

Out of the 81 countries importing items of gems and jewellery from India, Belgium topped the list followed by United States and Japan in 1980.

India also exports rough diamonds, rough precious stones and raw pearls. The provisional earnings from the export of these items in 1980 was Rs 318.57 million (nearly 39.2 million dollars).

Yet, the export potential of gems and jewellery items, which include gold and silver jewellery, pearls and synthetic stones, has not been fully exploited so far.

Dubai ready for joint ventures

Ahmedabad (Gujarat), (UNI) - A Dubai-based company, Dutco, has agreed to participate in a joint investment cement project with the Gujarat Industrial Investment Corporation (GIIC).

Ahmed Bakr, head of the Dutco group of companies, currently on a visit to Gujarat to explore possibilities of investment, has said that a team of officials of his company would be deputed to decide on the location of the cement project. Dutco would be investing in the project as a joint sector partner with GIIC, with management of the company resting with it. As per the usual formula, the Dubai firm will invest 25 per cent and GIIC will have a 26 per cent share. The remaining 49 per cent of funds will be raised from financial institutions.

Family planning success story

Trivandrum, (UNI) - The south Indian state of Kerala, which has a population density three times the national average, has already achieved the birth rate target set for the country for 1990.

Latest statistics reveal that the State has a birth rate of 23 per thousand, which is the projected rate for the whole country for 1990. If the present trend continues, Kerala will have a birth rate of 15 per thousand by 1990.

This "demographic implosion" has been credited to the ambitious sterilisation programme launched by the State government. Last year more than 1.1 million sterilisation operations were performed in the State a ten-fold jump from the target set at the beginning of the programme in 1971.

Nur Jahan's praise

New Delhi, (UNI) The popularity of classical music is declining in Pakistan.

Lamenting the phenomenon, the 51-year-old singer-actress Nur Jahan, told the Karachi English language weekly 'Mag'. "This is because the younger generation is not being properly trained in classical music. They try short cuts, unwilling to devote enough time to learning their native music."

"By this we are giving up our own culture, our own heritage, and straying from our moorings."

Nur Jahan, who began her singing career at the age of six in Calcutta in 1935 and acted in about 16 Indian films before migration to Pakistan, considers Indian playback singers to be "very rare people."

She told the magazine: "God sends such people to earth after centuries. The late Mohammad Rafi was a very great singer. Late (Mangeshkar) or Asha (Bhonsle) are born but rarely."

Railway experts used

New Delhi, (UNI) - Indian Railway technical know-how is greatly in demand in the West Asian countries as well as in Africa and East Asia.

The Rail India Technical and Economic Services Ltd. (RITES), a public sector undertaking under the administrative control of the Railway Ministry, is currently working on projects in Iran and Iraq. It has also on hand, or completed several assignments in Ghana, Nigeria, Zaire and Zambia and in the Phillipines.

Ten more reactors

New Delhi, (UNI) - Indian Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) will set up ten more 500 mw atomic reactors in the country, standardising the design of the nuclear plant in Narora. The plant at Narora, about 90 km from here, is to be commissioned soon.

The other reactors are expected to operate by the end of 1990.

The intention of DAE is to move to larger size reactors, keeping in view India's target of generating 10,000 mw of nuclear power by the year 2000.

This calls for matching investments in other areas such as production of heavy water, uranium mining and milling, fabrication of fuel and other related developments in the feild.

According to current indications, uranium resources in India can support a natural uranium reactor programme of the order of 10,000 mw.

At present, about three per cent of the electricity prod-

More heavy wa

Baroda, (UNI) - India needs nearly 13,000 tonnes of heavy water to meet the installed atomic power capacity target of 10,000 mws during the next two decades.

Three new heavy water plants have been proposed to be set up to meet the long-term requirements. India at present has five plants.

The first plant is to be set up at Thalvaishet in Maharashtra and the second at Hazira in Gujarat, both are associated with giant fertiliser plants. The third will be located near a coal mine to meet the requirement of less expensive steam. The loca-

Delicacy for A

New Delhi, (UNI) - Cooked spinach is one of the latest table delicacies to enter the list of Haryana's farm produce which is being exported by the State Agro-Industries Corporation.

Several Arab countries have lately started importing it. The corporation has exported cooked, ready-to-serve spinach valued at 0.5 million dollars during the current financial year.

Swami Adityavesh, chairman of the corporation, told newsmen today that India's canned vegetables had a good marketing potential in the UK which had a large

Kuwait trade

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The delegation will have discussions with Indian officials and representatives of trade and industry on the prospects of investment in the areas already identified by the Government, a senior official of the Commerce Ministry told UNI.

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At present, about three per cent of the electricity produced in the country is from nuclear source. Compared to this, Japan is way ahead of India, producing 12 per cent of its total electricity from its nuclear resources.

224 reactors are in operation all over the world and have accumulated about 1800 reactor years of experience.

The electricity industry in India has in the last 25 to 30 years grown at the rate of 10 per cent per annum compounded and this perhaps is the highest growth rate in any sector of the economy. However, an official working group on energy policy which submitted its report to the government early this year had assumed that the rate of growth may perhaps flatten to some extent to about 6.5 per cent by the year 2000. On this basis the installed capacity is likely to go up from the present 30,000 mw to about 110,000 to 130,000 mw by the year 2000. The per capita consumption of electricity which is about 150 kwh now, may shoot to about 400 kwh by the year 2000.

Minister quits

New Delhi, (UNI) - The political power tussle in the ruling Congress (I) party in the south Indian State of Karnataka came to a head when agriculture minister S. Bangarappa submitted his resignation.

State Chief Minister Gundu Rao, who had asked Mr. Bangarappa to resign had also reportedly sought Mrs. Gandhi's permission to dismiss Mr. Bangarappa following his refusal to leave the cabinet within the deadline.

Mrs Gandhi's support to the Chief Minister is seen by political observers as consistent with the party leadership's stand to curb dissident activity. Recently, such activity snowballed into the replacement of former Andhra Pradesh Channa Reddy by a minister in the union cabinet Mr. T. Anjaiah.

Mr. Bangarappa, like Chief Minister Gundu Rao, has been a loyal supporter of Mrs. Gandhi even when she was out of office during the Janata rule. He claims the Chief Minister has compromised the party's prestige by giving ministerial berths to persons who crossed over to the party only after former Congress (I) leader and State Chief Minister Devraj Urs left Mrs. Gandhi's camp.

Emphasis on employment

New Delhi, (UNI) - India's sixth Five-Year Plan (1980-85), which is expected to be finalised by the National Development Council next month, will lay emphasis on schemes and programmes generating a wide base of employment, particularly in rural areas, improving living standards of the weaker sections of society. Special area programmes for the uplift of the Scheduled Castes and Tribes will also be included in the Plan.

This has become clear from the exercise conducted by the Indian Planning Commission during the past week when the outlays of all the 22 states and Union Territories were finalised. The total outlay has been set at 61,500 million dollars.

Under the guidelines issued by the Planning Commission, the maximum emphasis in the State Plans would be on agriculture and allied activities which have high employment generation potential in the rural areas. The other priorities include irrigation, flood control, power, industry and minerals, transport and communications.

Planning Minister N.D. Tiwari in his discussions with the State Chief Ministers stressed the need for speedy implementation of schemes which would create employment opportunities.

Mr. Tiwari emphasised the urgency of measures to minimise the incidence of poverty and reduce the concentration of wealth. He said that poverty could be reduced by vigorous execution of schemes meant to improve the living conditions of the weaker sections of society. Among these are schemes for the drought-prone areas, desert development, small farms development agency and integrated rural development.

Mr. Tiwari pointed out that a review was undertaken recently of special rural development and a decision taken to merge the small farmers development programme with the integrated rural development programme which covers all blocks in the country.

The Planning Minister asked the Chief Ministers to ensure expeditious development of the core sector. He also referred to the increased outlays in various states and called for full resource mobilisation especially in the power sector.

More heavy water plants

Baroda, (UNI) - India needs nearly 13,000 tonnes of heavy water to meet the installed atomic power capacity target of 10,000 mws during the next two decades.

Three new heavy water plants have been proposed to be set up to meet the long-term requirements. India at present has five plants.

The first plant is to be set up at Thalvaishet in Maharashtra and the second at Hazira in Gujarat, both are associated with giant fertiliser plants. The third will be located near a coal mine to meet the requirement of less expensive steam. The location is still to be finalised.

The project director of the Baroda Heavy Water Plant has said the plants at the Thal-Vaishet and Hazira will be based on the design of the Tuticorin Project in Tamil Nadu and will have provisions for change over to a position of non-dependence on the fertilisers plant for the synchesis gas supply.

India has five heavy water plants based on different processes of manufacture. The first is at Nangal in Punjab with a capacity of 15 tonnes commissioned in 1962. The plant is based on distillation of Hydrogen obtained from electrolysis of water.

Medicine exports rise

Lucknow, (UNI) - Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Tanzania and Kenya are among the importers of finished drug formulations from India. The other importers are Malaysia and Singapore.

West Germany, Switzerland, Netherlands, United Kingdom, Italy, United States of America, Canada, Japan and the Soviet Union are the consumers of basic drug. Medicinal castor oil is mostly imported by Soviet Union, France, USA, Japan and Holland.

According to official reports, medicines worth 71.98 million dollars were exported by India during this year, registering an increase of 5.8 million dollars against last year.

Basic drugs worth 16.79 million dollars, finished formulations worth 47.9 million dollars and ayurvedic medicines worth 1.26 million dollars were sent to various countries.

Export of basic chemicals and its allied items recorded a sharp rise of 43 per cent during April and July last, touching 91.64 million dollars against 63.93 million dollars during the same period in the preceding year.

Exporting software

New Delhi, (UNI) - Indian government has announced a new policy for the export of computer software. The policy aims at fuller utilisation of the existing computers in the country for software production to a larger extent than in the past.

The policy also streamlines the procedure for importing computers which makes import control more stringent.

The policy has been revised taking into account the increased number of computer systems now available in the country. The total number of systems has increased from 120 in 1970 to as many as 600 in 1980. Also during the last five years, over 120 third and fourth generation computer systems have been imported in addition to introduction of 100 indigenous computers.

Under the new policy, any Indian organisation proposing to set up an export oriented software company, should have at the time of making the application for import of computers export orders for at least 20 per cent of the CIF value of the computer to be imported. In their cases, import of computing equipment normally not exceeding 50 per cent of the project export commitment value over a five year period, may be allowed.

In the case of Indian nationals settled abroad and wishing to set up a unit, they should also have a guaranteed export order for at least 20 per cent of the value of the computer proposed to be imported. However, in their cases import of computing equipment up to 100 per cent of the project export commitment value over a period of five years may be allowed.

For any Indian organisations wishing to import a computer with a view to enhancing or modifying the system of hardware or software against a specific export order and then re-export the computer, imports may be allowed without any extra obligations. Normally such an activity should not take more than two years and these systems should not be used for any domestic purpose.

All approvals for software export involving import of a computer system would carry some other general conditions in all the cases.

Delicacy for Arabs

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Swami Adityavesh, chairman of the corporation, told newsmen today that India's canned vegetables had a good marketing potential in the UK which had a large population of Indian settlers. The corporation was exporting canned 'kerela' (bitter gourd) to the UK besides tinned pickles.

He said representatives of two private firms of the UK were scheduled to arrive here next month to negotiate with the corporation a deal which would enable the latter to export mango juice and 'kerela'.

The corporation's mango juice cans had found a steadily growing market in the Soviet Union. Juice worth 0.54 million dollars would be exported to that country during 1981-82.

Kuwait trade delegation

New Delhi, (UNI) - A delegation of the Kuwaiti Foreign Trading Investment Company (KFTIC), a Government-owned corporation in Kuwait, will be visiting India for seven days beginning February 7.

The delegation will have discussions with Indian officials and representatives of trade and industry on the prospects of investment in the areas already identified by the Government, a senior official of the Commerce Ministry told UNI.

The delegation's visit will be a follow-up of the three-day visit of the Emir of Kuwait Sheikh al-Ahmed al-Jaber al-Sabah to India from September 10 to 12 last year.

An agreement was reached then following the Emir's discussions with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi and Kuwaiti Minister of Commerce and Industry Abdul Wahad al Nehisi's talks with the Indian Commerce Minister Pranab Mukherjee and the Industry Minister Charanjit Chanana.

According to the agreement, Kuwait had agreed in principle to make investments in various projects in India.

INDIAN FIRM BAGS IRAQI CONTRACT

New Delhi (UNI) - An Indian private sector firm has won a major contract for the construction of a sewerage system and drinking water plant in Iraq.

The firm will have a share of 52.5 million dollars in the 120 million dollar project -- the biggest single project awarded to an Indian firm in Iraq.

The contract has been awarded by the Baghdad Municipality for the project at Karkh, 40 km from the Iraqi capital.

Anti-fertility agent

Calcutta, (UNI) - Two women scientists of the Indian Institute of Experimental Medicine (IIEM) here have claimed to have identified an Antifertility Agent from the roots of "Aristolochia Indica" -- a medicinal plant.

The scientists have recorded that two of the three non-steroidal compounds were found to have significant anti-fertility effect in mice.

Sponsored by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), the study was undertaken to find a safe, cheap and effective oral antifertility agent from plant sources.

Both the compounds were found to be "effective antifertility agent" at the pre- and post-implantation stages of pregnancy.

The result of anti-fertility and toxicity studies on the two compounds indicated that they showed promise of being safe and effective antifertility agents.

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U.S. AND INDIA

Indo-U.S. relations have been somewhat strained for quite some time. The strongest democracy in the world could not see eye to eye on a number of issues with the largest democracy in the world. The eccentricities, angularities and prejudices of the players of the power game in these two nations added to the difficulties. Often the Americans felt rather simplistically that one who is not with them is against them.

The nuclear explosion in India and that country's refusal to sign the treaty governing future nuclear explosions have been a constant source of irritation to the U.S. government which often took the stand that they (and other developed nations) are the only ones who can understand what responsibility means in the nuclear area. Probably this is based on the assumption that the leadership of an underdeveloped nation is also underdeveloped.

The new American Secretary of State (what a relief it is not good old Henry again!) Alexander Haig in his answers to the Senate Committee that cross examined him did acknowledge that in spite of India's unwillingness to sign the nuclear non-proliferation treaty consideration could be given to India's need for essential nuclear supplies.

The new U.S. President has not yet taken an open stand on the new administration's relations with India. However this is not the first time Indira Gandhi is dealing with movie actors turned politicians considering her dealings with Tamil Nadu's Chief Minister! Meanwhile a seasoned and intelligent Indian ambassador in the U.S. K.R. Narayanan
is sure to help in mending relations with the U.S., provided the Americans would also be in a mood to do so.

Major contracts won

New Delhi, (UNI) Indian civil construction firms seeking opportunities for expansion in the gulf region have decided to form a consortium to bid for a major sub-contracting project in Baghdad.

The formation of the consortium marks a major breakthrough of Indian consultancy and civil construction. Both the Indian government and its allied agencies, including the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC), and the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) had been making futile attempts for several years to bring the consultancy and project exporters together. Now that the Indian companies in the private sector have decided to join hands to bid for the Baghdad project any chances of undercutting has been eliminated.

The value of the civil construction project is placed at 280 million francs, which is part of the overall contract bagged by a leading French firm. The total value of the contract for a radio and broadcasting project in Baghdad is placed at 720 million francs.

The French firm is already in touch with the Indian parties who have been providing the draft and other necessary details for consideration. The Indian firms have invited representatives of the French company in mid-January to work out the proposal in detail.

Lanka gets tough

Colombo, (UNI-DPA) - Sri Lanka has for years been plagued by strikes in the public sector, leading cynics to say that 'about the only thing which will not strike is a locally produced match'.

The Right-of-Centre Government of Junius R. Jayewardene has now made clear its determination to clean the public sector of such ills and enforce stricter disciplines.

Together with the high rate of inflation, now reaching 38 per cent, and such problems as mis-management of tea and rubber plantations, the undisciplined public sector has been blamed for the poor state of Sri Lanaka's economy.

Plea to abolish Deva Dasi system

New Delhi, (UNI) - A plea to abolish by law the "devadasi" system still prevalent in some parts of India such as Karnataka and Maharashtra has been made in the Indian Parliament.

Under the "devadasi" system, unmarried girls are offered, often before they attain puberty, for service as temple dancers. This is done in fulfillment of a vow by the parents and for the purpose of warding off misfortune and calamity to the family. In many cases, the girls are led to a life of shame.

A Congress (I) member from Karnataka who made the plea for ending the pernicious system of dedicating girls to temples as "devadasia" asked parliament to enact a law that would end the custom.

Like the practice of "sati" (voluntary self-immolation of a Hindu wife on her husband's funeral pyre), the "devadasi" system has come in for severe condemnation on the part of social reformers. While "sati" has long ago been prohibited by law, the custom of dedicating teenage girls as temple dancers continues, in the name of preservation of art forms.

According to a social worker, even though the custom of offering teenage girls to the Goddess Yellamma was prevalent in a large area in Karnataka in the guise of religious ritual, in reality it only helped the brothel-owners and pimps from cities like Bombay, Pune and Kolhapur to procure prostitutes.

The parents' selfishness and covetousness also played a part in fostering the religious image of the custom, and an unwanted daughter was readily offered to the Goddess as "good riddance", Mrs. Pungliya said. Some parents also "sold" their daughters to pimps, with an eye on the girls' earnings through prostitution.

The girl offered to the Goddess is known as a "Jogtin," who by her very faith is accessible to any man.

In recent years, however, the Jogtins had started realising their plight. Two conferences had been held in the last five years, attended by over 600 Jogtins, to discuss their problems and find ways to solve them.

On November 16 Pune Sociologist Mrs. Sunita Punglia told a seminar at Ahmedabad that about five thousand girls are being forced into prostitution every year during the annual fair on full moon day of the lunar month of Magh at Saundatti in the South Indian State of Karnataka. UNI deputed a special correspondent to the remote village to verify the statement. Following is his report:

Saundatti (Belgaum Dist., Karnataka), (UNI) - The Devadasi system, believed to thrive here, has been dead for longer than anyone here can remember.

Under the devadasi (literal translation: slave of god) system, unmarried girls were offered, often before they attained puberty, for services as temple dancers. This was done either in fulfillment of a vow by the parents or for the purpose of warding off misfortune and calamity to the family. The system was often abused and the girls ended up living a life of shame as prostitutes.

The only proof there is of the cult having existed in the remote past is a quaint ritual some women devotees perform at the Yellamma Temple on four consecutive full moon days.

First of these days, called "Rande Poornima" (Harlots' Full Moon) in the local parlance, occurred on December 21.

A UNI correspondent who attended the fair saw nothing to vouch for the truth of the statement made a few weeks ago by a Pune sociologist that about five thousand girls are being annually forced into prostitution at the temple on the day of the fair.

The temple stands in a hill-girt valley about three km from this town and is linked by a road which climbs up a hill and plunges into the bowl shaped valley.

With the approach of the full moon day, tents mushroom around the temple and its satellite shrines. A majority of those who throng the temple are women.

To the din of drums and cymbals, eunuchs help young girls take a ritual bath in the stream snaking through the valley.

The girls then walk to the temple carrying Margosa twigs and prostrate before the image of the Goddess. Some girls offer to the Deity vermillion, some the bangles they wear.

The ritual is known as "Bathale Seva" (Service in the Nude) and is said to be a relic of the defunct practice of initiating girls into the life of a Devadasi.

In ancient days this ritual was customarily performed by girls in the nude with the Margosa leaf serving the role of the proverbial fig leaf.

Behind the ritual is a moving legend about how the husband of the goddess was slain and then brought back to life.

Interviews with numerous women devotees showed they were unaware of the system of Devadasis. They went through the ritual only to propitiate the goddess.

The assistant Commissioner and the Executive Officer of the temple, T.S. Hosamatt said the sociologist should either prove the allegation or tender an apology. He said he welcomed Karnataka Chief Minister Gundu Rao's recent proposal to depute a team of lawyers to the temple to investigate the allegation.

A spokesman of the temple administration said the custom of offering teenage girls to the Goddess as "Oghatti" (Devadasi) was in vogue in some distant past. What had survived was an empty ritual.

He said the temple attracted about 2,500,000 pilgrims every year. The four full moon days between December and April were considered particularly auspicious.

Pak friendship reaffirmed

New Delhi, (UNI) - India has reaffirmed that it stands for friendship with the people of Pakistan and is equally committed to respect Pakistan's territorial integrity and political independence.

An assurance to this effect is contained in a letter sent by the Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to the Pakistani President Zia-ul-Haq. The letter is in response to birth day greetings sent by President Zia in November last year.

Mrs. Gandhi said in her letter that the people and the Government and she personally stood committed to respecting Pakistan's national unity, territorial integrity, political independence and sovereign equality. Friendly relations between the two countries, Mrs. Gandhi said, are important for the well being of the people of both countries and constitute a "major factor in establishing peace and stability in the region".

Mrs. Gandhi went on to say that "guiding these relations on constructive lines, therefore is not only a vital responsibility of our two governments but also an imperative necessity for the progress and prosperity of our peoples".

Envoys sent

New Delhi, (UNI) - India has launched a major diplomatic initiative to arrive at a consensus on the draft declaration for the February meeting of Non-Aligned Foreign Ministers conference, by despatching top officials of its foreign office to various Non-Aligned countries.

Foreign Secretary R D Sathe left for Kabul yesterday to meet Afghan President Babrak Karmal and discuss with him the Afghan stand in the conference.

Romesh Bhandari, Secretary in the Foreign Office will visit Beirut, Baghdad, Jeddah and Bahrain while another senior official, Gare Khan is scheduled to leave for Belgrade and Algiers.

Additional Secretary S K. Singh will go to Kuwait and Libya. Some other officials are slated to visit various Non-Aligned countries in Africa and Latin America.

Attracti investm

New Delhi, (UNI) - Non-residents of Indian nationality who are returning home for permanent settlement have been provided with certain special facilities for setting up new industrial units in accordance with the Indian Government's Industrial Policy in force. Some of these are:

(i) Non residents can import capital goods upto the value of 0.31 million dollars out of their own foreign exchange savings and resources abroad. Import of banned types of capital goods will not be permitted under this facility. However, in exceptional cases, requests for the import of even banned items may be considered on merit.

(ii) The limit of 0.31 million dollars is applicable to a single person which would mean that if two or more persons jointly set up an industry, they can import capital goods upto the value limit as would work out on the basis of the number of persons participating in the project. In appropriate cases the limit of 0.31 million dollars may be relaxed by Government even for an individual.

(iii) In the case of used (second-hand) machinery, the value should not exceed 0.19 million dollars as 0.31 million dollars in the case of new machinery.

(iv) The capital goods impor-

Curbing black mo

New Delhi, (UNI) - In a bid to mop up unaccounted money and utilise it for productive purposes, the Government of India has decided to issue special bearer bonds of the denomination of Rs 10,000 to be offered to anyone who pays the money, without income tax probes as to its source.

The bonds will be issued at par and will have a maturity period of ten years. On maturity, the holders will be entitled to receive Rs 12,000.

This is the second effort made by the Indian Government in recent years to curb the menace of black money. In 1975, the government had announced a voluntary disclosure scheme for harnessing unaccounted money. According to the figures published then, the scheme yielded a tax income of 187.5 million dollars.

The special bearer bonds scheme now announced will be completely independent of the tax system. No holder of the bond will accordingly be entitled to claim any set-off or relief in any pro-

Gulf co

New Delhi, (UNI) - Saud Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Kuwait ar currently the major impo ters of Indian furniture. India exports mostly bambo and cane furnitures to thes countries.

Saudi Arabia, which to the list, imported from Indi furniture worth 768,000 dol ars during 1978-79 and th United Arab Emirates impo ted furniture worth 378,00 dollars.

Attracting non-resident investments

New Delhi, (UNI) - Non-residents of Indian nationality who are returning home for permanent settlement have been provided with certain special facilities for setting up new industrial units in accordance with the Indian Government's Industrial Policy in force. Some of these are:

(i) Non-residents can import capital goods upto the value of 0.31 million dollars out of their own foreign exchange savings and resources abroad. Import of banned types of capital goods will not be permitted under this facility. However, in exceptional cases, requests for the import of even banned items may be considered on merit.

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(iii) In the case of used (second-hand) machinery, the value should not exceed 0.19 million dollars as 0.31 million dollars in the case of new machinery.

(iv) The capital goods imported under this facility cannot be sold for a period of five years. Thereafter, such sale may be made only with the prior permission of the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi.

(v) The capital invested and the profits earned in the industrial units set up under this facility, cannot be repatriated out of India.

(vi) In addition residents can also import raw materials, components, consumables and spares for meeting the requirements of one year subject to a maximum limit of 0.06 million dollars provided these things are purchased out of their own foreign exchange earnings abroad.

(vii) The facility for the import of raw materials, etc. will also be available in cases where the machinery is purchased indigenously.

(viii) There will be no objection in entertaining more than one application for the import of raw materials, etc. provided the total value of such imports does not exceed the overall limit of 0.06 million dollars.

(ix) For availing these facilities the non-resident Indians have to apply to the RBI for permission to retain foreign currency balances abroad in a prescribed form. The application can be made in accordance with the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act after the applicants return to India.

(x) Non-residents who do not intend to return to India but are interested in investing in an enterprise in India without the right of repatriation can also avail of the above facilities. However, in their case the import of second-hand (used) capital goods will not be allowed.

(xi) Non-residents who want to import capital goods under the above facilities should apply in the prescribed form to the Regional Licensing Authorities if the total value of imports does not exceed 0.13 million dollars (c.i.f.); to the Chief Controller of Imports and Exports, New Delhi, if the value of imports exceeds 0.13 million dollars but does not exceed 0.31 million dollars and to the CCI&E through the Secretariat for Industrial Approvals (CG section), Ministry of Industry, Udyog Bhavan, New Delhi, if the value of imports exceeds 0.31 million dollars.

(xii) In the case of applications made through SIA, the applicant should send 10 spare copies while in other cases four spare copies would do. Applications made through SIA should also be accompanied by application for grant of Industrial Licence in the prescribed Form IL along with 10 spare copies of the same.

Curbing black money

New Delhi (UNI) - In a bid to mop up unaccounted money and utilise it for productive purposes, the Government of India has decided to issue special bearer bonds of the denomination of Rs 10,000 to be offered to anyone who pays the money, without income tax probes as to its source.

The bonds will be issued at par and will have a maturity period of ten years. On maturity, the holders will be entitled to receive Rs 12,000.

This is the second effort made by the Indian Government in recent years to curb the menace of black money. In 1975, the government had announced a voluntary disclosure scheme for harnessing unaccounted money. According to the figures published then, the scheme yielded a tax income of 187.5 million dollars.

The special bearer bonds scheme now announced will be completely independent of the tax system. No holder of the bond will accordingly be entitled to claim any set-off or relief in any proceeding under the direct tax laws on the ground that he has subscribed to otherwise acquired the bonds.

An important feature of the scheme is the immunity provided for the original subscriber or possessor of the bonds from being questioned about their possession or the source of the money invested in the bonds.

Apart from this a number of other facilities have been provided under the scheme. Possession of the bonds will not make a person liable to tax, penalty, or prosecution under the direct tax laws.

Further, the premium payable on the redemption of the bonds will be free from income-tax and the value of the bonds will be exempt from wealth-tax.

Subscription to the bonds outside India will be made in foreign exchange. However, the repayment in all cases will be made in India in Indian rupees.

The bonds are expected to be available from the first week of February, 1981. The scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet at an unscheduled meeting last week.

Largest tea producer

New Delhi, (UNI) - India is the world's largest producer, consumer and exporter of tea.

India's tea production has increased from 354 million kg in 1961 to about 560 million kg in 1979, an impressive growth of about 58 per cent. The country exported about 225 million kg of tea till December 1980, as against the exports of 199.78 million kg in 1979. An estimated 500 million dollars constituted Indian Tea Industry's earnings in 1980.

The potential for the growth of the Indian Tea Industry is enormous, considering the fact that the country's per capita consumption is only 0.48 kg compared to Britain's 3.30 kg. Iraq consumes 2.07 kg of tea per head, while the figure for Sri Lanka is 1.52 kg.

Tea is India's oldest organised industry, with gardens located in remote and largely backward areas in the country.

Gulf countries buy furniture

New Delhi, (UNI) - Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen and Kuwait are currently the major importers of Indian furniture. India exports mostly bamboo and cane furnitures to these countries.

Saudi Arabia, which tops the list, imported from India furniture worth 763,000 dollars during 1978-79 and the United Arab Emirates imported furniture worth 378,000 dollars.

Other countries importing furniture from India are Iraq, Qatar, Oman, Nepal, United Kingdom and the United States.

Popular furniture items like round chairs, back chairs, straight back chairs, easy chairs, stools, tables and all varieties of garden chairs are being exported by India.

India has registered a phenomenal annual growth of 232.5 per cent in the five years ending 1979, when furniture exports rose from 125,000 dollars in 1975-76 to 5.41 million dollars in 1978-79.

It has been suggested that important foreign buyers should be invited to visit important garden furniture manufacturing centres in India to acquaint them with the wide variety of items being manufactured in India.

Better Indo-U.S. relations hoped

New Delhi, (UNI) - India's Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has expressed the hope that with the installation of Ronald Reagan as President there would be greater understanding between the United States and India, which would enhance peace and stability in the Asian region.

Mrs. Gandhi, who was speaking to visiting members of the Armed Service Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives led by Melvin PriceDemocrat) on January 12, said both the United States and the Soviet Union should scale down their presence in the Indian Ocean region to reduce tension threatening the security of the entire region.

Mrs. Gandhi and the Committee members also discussed the dangerous implications of the growing Big Power naval rivalry in the Indian Ocean. She emphasised the urgent need to de-escalate the confrontation between various powers in the region.

Dealing with the situation in Afghanistan, Mrs. Gandhi told the Committee that India's stand was well known and also maintained that these views had been conveyed in a consistent manner to the leaders of other countries.

Speaking about bilateral relations, Mrs. Gandhi told the Committee that India has always had great admiration

for the United States and American people not only in material terms but also in terms of their intellectual and creative capacities.

Mrs. Gandhi said this feeling remains though differences between countries cannot be avoided in international relations.

Stressing that there are many areas in which the United States and India could cooperate, Mrs. Gandhi assured the Committee that India would do everything to increase understanding and strengthen friendship between the two countries. She recalled that when Mr. Reagan became President-elect India had made use of the opportunity provided by Mr. B.K. Nehru's visit to the US to convey a message of friendship and best wishes to Mr. Reagan.

During her wide ranging discussions with the U.S. Congressmen who arrived here on January 11 on a two-day visit, Mrs. Gandhi reiterated India's commitment to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and said there was "unnecessary talk" about the Indian nuclear programme going on in some quarters in the world and that India's peaceful nuclear policy should be understood in the right perspective.

During their hour-long discussions there was an exchange of views between Mrs. Gandhi and the members of the committee on a number of subjects including the international situation, regional developments with reference to Afghanistan, developments in the Indian Ocean region and Indo-American bilateral relations.

Water for burns

Bombay, (UNI) - "Pour ice-cold water on burns. If that is not available, use water at room temperature, but use more of it". This is the latest advice on first aid for burn victims.

Talking to newsmen here on the opening day (January 14) of the three-day Afro-Asian conference on burns, Dr. John A Boswick, Secretary-General of the International Society for Burn Injuries, said ice-cold water on burns, apart from its immediate cooling effect, would also prevent burns from spreading.

Communities of tomorrow ...3

Continuted from last issue.

By Jerome C. Glenn

In some ways, Auroville is reliving history from the subsistence agricultural period to the coming post-industrial society. Naturally, they do not intend to make the same mistakes along the way. Some of the early agricultural, extended family forms are visible. For example, in tribal societies it is quite common for teenagers to leave home and start their own community. Ami, French for "friend", is a small community of 15 young girls ranging from 9-16 years old. So far, though, no similar community for teenage boys has formed. Also, it is said that the individual's relationship to the community may at times be stronger than with the spouse, partner, or children - another agricultural tribal characteristic.

Some Aurovilians work sixteen hours a day although others appear less physically active. Since the "job" is karma yoga, one person cannot judge what is right or wrong for another - hence the source of the amazingly prevalent tolerance. The way an individual's physical activity and spiritual activity fuse in his or her karma yoga is impossible for another to tell.

Yet some minor prejudices do occur within Auroville. For example, one subcommunity called Utility has associate members who visit an average of three months out of the year, bringing more money and gifts than are usually seen. The closest thing to a country club Auroville has to offer, it is also one of the most beautiful spots. Some feel there is too much attachment to the good life in Utility; yet it, too, began as a barren desert. The largest subcommunity, Aspiration, has a strong sense of community, is one of the most vocal, and is politically more sure of what is right or wrong. Some feel Aspiration is a little too emotional and exerts an overabundance of peer group pressure. Those who work in agriculture in the Green Belt sometimes resent the more "urbanite" Aurovilians who supplement the community's output with food brought in Pondicherry and forget to compost their wastes. But these are relatively minor prejudices and result in nothing serious. Serious conflict is saved for the Sri Aurobindo Society (SAS) at the ashram in Pondicherry.

SAS was the legal entity that brought the land for Auroville and handled official business with the Indian government, from which it received major funding. Mirra Richard - The Mother - was its president until she died in 1973. After her death, SAS began to see itself as the owner of Auroville. Since The Mother saw no one owning Auroville per se and most of the Aurovilians were extremely independent, trouble began to brew.

In 1976, the conflict escalated. SAS stopped sending money to Auroville, and the community had to look elsewhere for financial assistance. During that turbulent year, SAS had several Aurovilians deported and rented some orchard land that was within Auroville to Tamil villagers. Many Aurovilians believe that SAS took even more drastic measures, such as paying Tamil villagers to throw stones at community members. Several confrontations with the Indian police occurred, and SAS members were denied access to the Matrimandir to meditate.

Recent years have been relatively quiet, though the dispute appears no closer to resolution. SAS continues to claim ownership of Auroville, and, in the face of continued resistance, has blocked the bank accounts of many of the community's projects and has even tried to prevent Aurovilians from obtaining the cement they need to build the Matrimandir. Despite the continuing political struggle, however, Auroville has been able not only to survive but to grow.

Decision-Making at Auroville

General issues of community-wide significance are discussed at weekly "Four Tous" meetings, whose decisions, however, are not necessarily binding. The Four Tous, which means "for everyone" in French, also serves as an information clearinghouse, where announcements of important upcoming community events are made and news of community members on the road can be heard. The day-to-day practical running of the community is accomplished through the Cooperative - seven people, representing seven different geographic areas and life-styles-whose membership is constantly changing. Another form of decision-making is the Envelope System, composed of 20 people representing the different communities within Auroville plus several other individuals who want to be involved. Residents are invited to put all of their money into the Envelope System, designating a specific category for the use of the money if they wish. The committee then redistributes the money to the communities for various purposes.

The weekly Four Tous Meetings, the Cooperative, and the Envelope System do not account for the full range of political and economic activities of Auroville. As with any community, informal communications and agreements among people play a large role in the everyday life of Aurovilians. In Auroville it is believed that the only real system is consciousness. The old systems are made to handle the least conscious, most ignorant and selfish people. Lawmakers have to think of every abnormal thing that someone could do. But the systems and agreements in Auroville are based on the fullest consciousness possible. Hence, the legal "system" and agreements tend to be the reverse of conventional practice. Without this, Auroville has no meaning beyond that of a drop-out center for the Western hippy of the 1960s.

Auroville's Financial Status

All cities begin with outside investment, then either move toward self-sufficiency or perish. Auroville is no exception. It is still in the building period, but expects to move toward self-sufficiency through agriculture and export of crafts such as clothing, weaving, silk screens, electronics, leather craft, batik, candlemaking, incense, lamp shades, toys, and woodworking. Ideally, Auroville will tap the resources inside each individual, but the emphasis will not be on making a living. But a self-sufficient Auroville is still to come, and economic survival remains a major theme. However, 1979 brought hope that a new phase was beginning, as residents agreed to live within their means and agricultural production brought the community to the verge of food self-sufficiency for the first time. Even though income was down 50 per cent from the previous year, the people seemed to have lost their fear of not having enough money. They believe that the positive long-range trends have just begun.

Barren Land Transformed

One of the first things many Aurovilians point out is that when they came, the land offered nothing to entice a farmer. The area consisted of some scrub bushes, eroded gullies, and a few desert weeds eking out an existence on cement-like baked sand and clay. The pioneers draw great satisfaction from knowing that they have converted the barren land to beautiful settings of hardwood trees, brilliantly flowering bushes, fruit trees, and even grass in some areas. In itself this is no great feat, but one must remember the degree of difficulty: the intense heat, low or little technology, lack of knowledge, and the extremely slow pace of Indian culture. The human labor invested is staggering to comprehend.

Today, one-third of Auroville is engaged in reforesting about three-fourths of the land. 300,000 flowering forest trees, 400,000 casuarina pines and 4,000 fruit trees have been planted. Half of Auroville is settled, while the remaining acres are under some primary erosion control. There are 50 milk cows in three dairies and 1,500 chickens. Even the water table is beginning to rise due to the construction of dams, reservoirs, reforestation, and digging terraces, or bunds, to prevent the water from running off during the monsoons. (It is estimated that in the past over 90 per cent of the rainfall ran off to the Bay of Bengal, taking with it a tremendous annual toll in topsoil.)

Some Aurovilians are actively experimenting to determine what trees produce the most food, grow fast, and hold the most soil. So far the winners are the jackfruit, cashew, and mango trees. Using Forest Farming and Tree Crops as bibles, Aurovilians' long-term investment in fruit trees is just now beginning to pay off.

Aurogreen is the largest farm in the Green Belt, an area dedicated to reforestation that circles Auroville three kilometers from the Matrimandir. To date, about $87,500 has been invested in Aurogreen, including a recent contribution of $25,000 from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization's German Tamil Fund and the Commission of European Communities (CEC). Aurogreen has now progressed to the point that residents are hopeful of growing enough food this year and in the future to feed all of Auroville. The strictly organic farming approach taken by Aurogreen proved to be quite difficult at first, but years of slow progress by trial and error have made the farm a beautiful sight today. Among the many crops growing on this previously barren land are mangos, beans, squash, papaya, tomatoes, guava, lemons, coconuts, and peanuts.

In contrast, Auro-orchard is less tied into the community and is a profit-making farm that uses chemicals and cages chickens in tight rows. Some of the profit comes to Auroville as a whole, but this approach to farming is tolerated though not appreciated by most in the Green Belt.

A smaller farm called Sharnga (Krishna's bow) is now breeding rabbits, which is one of the most efficient ways to produce protein in the diet. Currently it takes an average of $52.21 a week to run this farm, including salaries for Tamil laborers, feed for the cows, tools, and general farm maintenance. About twice this amount would make it predictably productive. A harsh lessor about farm planning was learned three years ago: forty acres were planted, with composting and watering, but when harvest time came, there was no money to hire extra Tamil villagers to bring in the food. With only three people to harvest, much was left to rot. Before planting such an amount again, members know $137.50 is needed up front if they are not to repeat the same mistake.

The limit on tree planting seems to be the ability to water them. It takes an average of 500 liters/week/tree. At Sharnga, there are two electric pumps that produce 3,500 liters an hour, or one week's worth of water for seven trees in one hour. Assuming a six-day week at eight hours per day, these pumps could only support 336 trees. And two electric pumps are considered to be quite a luxury.

With the exception of Auro-orchard, the food produced in the Green Belt is brought by bicycle to the Four Tous Store, which in turn delivers it free of charge to all of the communities in Auroville. Milk is delivered from the farms directly to the communities, also free. There is a bakery which delivers bread and tofu (made from soybeans) to all the communities free-of-charge.

So it appears that agriculturally Auroville is going to make it. Some might argue that 12 years is a long time to take to feed yourself, but these farmers point out that they didn't come to farm or make a monetary profit, but to advance spiritually.

A Healthy Community

The Spartan existence, essentially vegetarian-natural foods diet, meditation, and avoidance of Western urban stress all contribute to the healthy life of Aurovilians. They try to live in such a way as to avoid illness, and when sick, they rely primarily on experimenting with spiritual self-healing. But if that fails, there is Dr. Tawari, an Indian woman who practices both allopathic (Western) and homeopathic (more attention to the whole individual with natural substances for treatment) medicine. Although based in a medical clinic in Aspiration, she does visit the other areas of Auroville. Some residents go to Pondicherry to buy medicine, and in a very serious illness they go to Jitmer Medical College about eight kilometers away. There are Ayurvedic (Indian medicine) dispensaries in Kottakarai and Udavi, but these are primarily for Tamil villagers.

Many Aurovilians are so prejudiced against any form of Western medicine that they don't even immunize their children against childhood diseases. As a resuh, whooping cough has become epidemic. Not surprisingly, the most common illness in this tropical community is dysentery. Although Aurovilians share the same environment as the neighboring Tamil tribe, it is widely believed they are much healthier. Although Aurovilians do not maintain the most sanitary conditions, they are still cleaner and better fed than their neighbors. Their vegetarian diet of whole grains, local fruits and vegetables, nuts, seeds, milk and eggs (many do not eat eggs) is weak in iron, B12, zinc, and animal protein. As a result, they must rely on milk that is not too plentiful when the cows are pregnant. The nutritional situation should receive more attention.

As in any pioneering community, the birthrate is picking up. There are several midwives in Auroville and most children are born at home.

[To be continued next issue].

Saving fuel

New Delhi, (UNI) - India's nationalised airlines, Air India and Indian Airlines, will save-straightening of air routes in last year.

The restructuring of routes during 1980 had cut 120 nautical miles off the country's air network, which would lead to substantia economy in fuel consumption.

Fuel can account for nearly half the budget of airlines these days.

FILMS

SHAAN

Directed by Ramesh Sippy
Produced by G P Sippy

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The reputation of **Sholay** spread far and wide, so much so that film-makers and cinema connoisseurs who visited India, especially Delhi and Bombay, at the time of the Sixth international film festival of India (January 1977), were eager to see **Sholay**. It was written about extensively - of course the point that it was influenced by many foreign films was not ignored. The phenomenal success of **Sholay** set the trend - many big-budget multistarrers were announced, completed and released but not with as much success as **Sholay**.

When the Sippys announced their next project, **Shaan** they wanted it to be bigger and better than **Sholay**. They chose the same story writer (Salim-Javed), and the same music director (R D Burman). They wanted to have the same lead players too: Dharmendra, Hema Malini, Sanjeev Kumar and Amitabh Bachchan. Except the last named, the other three bowed out, for reasons best known to them. One can say, after seeing **Shaan**, that they did the right thing. For those who have seen James Bond films and their plagiarization by Indian filmmakers (Hindi, Malayalam, Tamil or even Telugu) there is nothing novel about **Shaan**.

The plot, characters, situations and the background musical score seem all familiar. Gadgetry, auto-chases, a dog squad chasing a lonely man, a helicopter pouncing on a man, a sophisticated, sadistic gang leader of smugglers hitting it out on his men, underground chambers and basement dungeons, the destruction of the gangster smugglers' hill-top mansion, sharks devouring men, and a daring man fighting it out with the shark-one has seen all. As also the surprise "dramatic" twists and turns. One could forecast them even before they happened. The most favourable points are: special effects, grandiose sets, gloss and glamour. But then that has become the stapel diet of all multi-starrers. Long sequences become boring and one starts pining for a change or a diversion. Which of course is provided - the writers have seen to that - but then the change itself becomes boring. In 23 reels of **Sholay** one's interest does not flag, in 22 reels of **Shaan**, one longs for another intermission, besides the customary one.

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FILMS

SHAAN

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Shaan is advertised by its makers as "the biggest and greatest show on earth." Cost-wise it may be the biggest film produced in India so far but popularity-wise it does not seem to be so. If in the thirties **Kismat** (starring Ashok Kumar) made box-office history, **Sholay** has set a new record. At Minerva Cinema, Bombay, it is still running non-stop theatre without a break, giving to the distributor its share of Rs 45,23,381/76, out of the total collection during this period. The release of **Shaan** has not affected **Sholay** whose black-market rate is quoted at Rs 20 per seat. Violence is the theme of both the films.

Shaan is the story of three brothers-an upright police officer, and two small-time crooks who had to give up thuggery to revenge themselves on the killer of their police officer-brother who is done to death by the smugglers' boss in order to clear their path. The two brothers are joined by a crackshot for no other reason but revenge. His own wife was done to death, in a blazing auto accident, as he failed (he did not want to) to kill the police officer. The three overpower the sadist and his men. Just before his end, he pulls a handle to destroy his mansion in order to destroy his destroyers but they come out safe and sound after narrow escapes.

Amitabh Bachchan plays the angry young man, with a certain comic vein, ready to take on even a dozen guys-well armed and well-built. So is Shatrughan Sinha playing the cracksbot. Shashi Kapoor has neither the physique nor the face to be a tough guy. Kulbhushan Kharbanda plays the smugglers' boss with a mannerism. Obviously he invited comparion with Amjad Khan's villain in **Sholay**, though the two characters needed different styles and stances. It would be unfair to Kharbanda to say that he is not as impressive as Amjad Khan but that is the impression one is left with. Sunil Dutt's tallness stands him in good stead to play an upright police officer. Bindiya and Parveen Babi are just decorative pieces ment for dancing, romancing or fooling about. Rakhee, an actress of strong emotions and expressive eyes, plays the sober, sad and sanguine housewife-more immersed in her household and child than with what is happening around her and to her brother-in-laws. Mazhar Khan is a discovery. As an invalid, moving about on the roads on wheel, he steals the thunder from seasoned actors in the film. His strong face and sharp, deep voice are his great assets. Given a chance, he should do even better. For a long time Amjad Khan was cast in a number of films on the strength of the character he played in **Sholay**. Mazhar Khan will be cast on the strength of his own personality not on the basis of the **Shaan** role.

[Darshak in Democratic World]

Bombay type film from the Gulf

New Delhi, (UNI) - The era of "multinationals" in cinema can be said to have dawned with "Suraj Bhee Tamashaee" (The Sun too is a Spectator), the first Urdu/Hindi feature film from the Gulf region.

It is not usual that people from five nations work as a team to produce a film. The seemingly difficult task has been performed by M. Ziaur-Rashid, a Pakistani film-maker based in Muscat.

The film in colour, full with songs and written by Rashid himself, has a star cast headed by lovely Rehana Sultan and dashing Suresh Oberoi, both from India. Rahat Kazmi, Khalid Nizami and Zeenat Yasmin from Pakistan, Anoja Weersinghe, Leena D'Silva and Deen Kumar from Sri Lanka and Hashem from Iran fill the bill.

Rashid's songs have been set to lilting tunes by Lal Mohammed Iqbal and crooned by Mehnaz Begum, Akhlaq Ahmed, Ahmed Rushdi, Masood Rana, Irene Perveen and model-pop singer Tara Chansham -- all from Pakistan.

The film was shown to a select audience at the International Film Market organised at the Eighth International Film Festival of India held at New Delhi during the first half of January.

Mr. Rashid told this correspondent he was hoping to sell the film in India through the National Film Development Corporation. His hopes had been strengthened after the appreciation his film had earned from other delegates at the film festival.

According to Agha Nasir, Managing Director of Pakistan's NAFDEC, the film trade corporation set up by the government, Pakistan does not import Urdu films, as a policy. However, a special case would be made for this film. Papers for importing this film are being processed.

Mr. Rashid said he was holding negotiations to sell the film to the Arab countries, the UK and some Asian countries.

The film is about an ambitious girl (Seema) who prefers a rich playboy (Ameer) to the poet-painter cousin (Sahir) who loves her ardently. Seema pays for her mistake with her life. Jilted Sahir finds solace in the company of Roshni, a dancer, a "fallen woman", whom he inspires to leave her calling and to live a life of dignity and honour.

The film is shot entirely in Sri Lanka by cameraman Jamil Hussain. It was completed in a record 60 days. The photography is competent and brings out the best in the Sri Lankan scenery. The film's "presenter" is Silmi Jahame of Jordan. Co-producing the film with Rashid is young Hashem Abdulla Galadari of Iran. Both Rashid and Hashem play small roles in the film.

The film is made very much on the line of those made in Bombay and Lahore, with duets, dances and night club numbers. Much champagne has been thrown in to "wash down" this entertainment.

Says filmmaker Rashid: "To me, a cinema feature film should be a believable portrait of some selected incidents with given melodramatic colours."

Rashid says he neither belongs "to the school of off-beat and realist cinema, nor to the circle of commercial fantasy-makers." This film, he claims, is the first Urdu/Hindi film to be made outside the Indian subcontinent, in the Arabian Gulf.

AANCHAL

Directed by Anil Ganguly; Produced by Tapan Kumar Guha and Tapan Chatterji

A simple tale of an honest and straightforward village family, simply told in the sylvan settings of rural Bengal/Bihar, interspersed with lot of human drama, **Aanchal** is a mini multi-starer.

Rajesh Khanna is a village youth out to pick up quarrel with anybody; Amol Palekar plays his elder brother, careful in his dealings; Raakhee, the elder brother's wife, devoted and faithful to her husband; Rekha, carefree, prankish but persistent in her love for the village youth; then there is Prem Chopra, the disruptor, his usual screen role, out to create discord between the two brothers. This sort of plot has been seen on the screen many a time. In **Aanchal** it is based on Tarashankar Bandopadhyaya's novel. In Anil Ganguly's hands it gets energised through deft direction and zestful performances by the entire cast.

The surprise of **Aanchal** is that the lead cast play their rural roles convincingly, most of them have so far done urban characters and won plaudits for them. In romantic situations Rajesh Khanna brings to the fore his usual mannerism. Prem Chopra expresses himself through villainish grimaces. Amol Palekar manages to convey his feelings without the help of dialogue. Rekha is the liveliest part of the film. Raakhee is slowly taking the place of Meena Kumari as the queen of emotions.

The film is in Purbi dialect but nonetheless enjoyable for that. Its theme is also ennobling - a tiller's devotion to his land. It is a neat and clean film, lacking the usual box-office masaala. For that reason, such films need encouragement. To make a Hindi film with a rural subject and to make it without frills is no mean achievement.

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India study programs

INDIA STUDIES 1981

The U.S. Associated Colleges of the Midwest offer an opportunity for fifteen to twenty students to study spring term of 1981 at Lawrence University, followed by six months in Poona, India. Orientation will include intensive training in Marathi, the major language of Maharashtra, and an orientation seminar, plus one or two courses from Lawrence's regular offerings. In India participants enroll in required language instruction and choose four other courses; they will also undertake an independent research project.

Any currently enrolled college student may apply, though priority is given to those who will be sophomores or juniors at the time of the orientation term. No prior experience in Indian studies is required. The costs of the program include tuition paid directly to the home college, $600 room and board during orientation, and a program fee of approximately $1,500. Completed applications must be returned to the advisor by April 15 for early decision or by November 15. Students may obtain materials from the Associated Colleges of the Midwest, 18 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL 60603; phone (312) 263-5000.

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM - INDIA

The Professional Studies Program places students at universities and research institutions in India, where they work with Indian faculty and professionals in developing projects related to their professional and research interests.

Selection of students for the program is from a wide range of graduate schools. The program, now in its fourteenth year, is partially funded by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Benefits include round trip air transporation, living allowance, housing, medical coverage, travel related to study, orientation programs and intensive language training. U.S. citizenship is required.

For more information, write to International Education, University of California, 2538 Channing Way, Bldg. D, Berkeley, CA 94720; phone (415) 642-1856.

COLLEGE YEAR IN INDIA PROGRAM

The University of Wisconsin -Madison is offering a summer ten-week term of language study in Hindi-Urdu, Telugu, or Tamil and special orientarion sessions, followed by an academic year in India at either Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, U.P. (for Hindi students), Andhra University, Waltair, A.P. (for Telugu students), or Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, Tamilnadu (for Tamil students). While in India, students will participate in language training, a fieldwork project, and course/tutorial work/field work methods work.

Total expenses for the program, excluding summer living costs, are an estimated $4,900. Requests for application forms should be addressed to College Year in India Program, 1410 Van Hise Hall, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706; phone (608) 262-2851. Completed application forms are due by February 15, 1981.

COLLEGE YEAR IN NEPAL PROGRAM

The University of Wisconsin -Madison is offering a summer ten-week term of language study in Nepali and orientation sessions, followed by an academic year in Nepal. While in Nepal, the student will participate in language training, an independent project, and other studies that will further advance an understanding of the country. Activities will be centered mainly in the Kathmandu valley, where Tribhuvan University is located. Board and room will be provided by Nepali families.

Total expenses for the program, excluding summer living costs, are an estimated $5,300. Requests for application forms should be addressed to College Year in Nepal Program, 1410 Van Hise Hall, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706; phone (608) 262-2851. Completed application forms are due by February 15, 1981.

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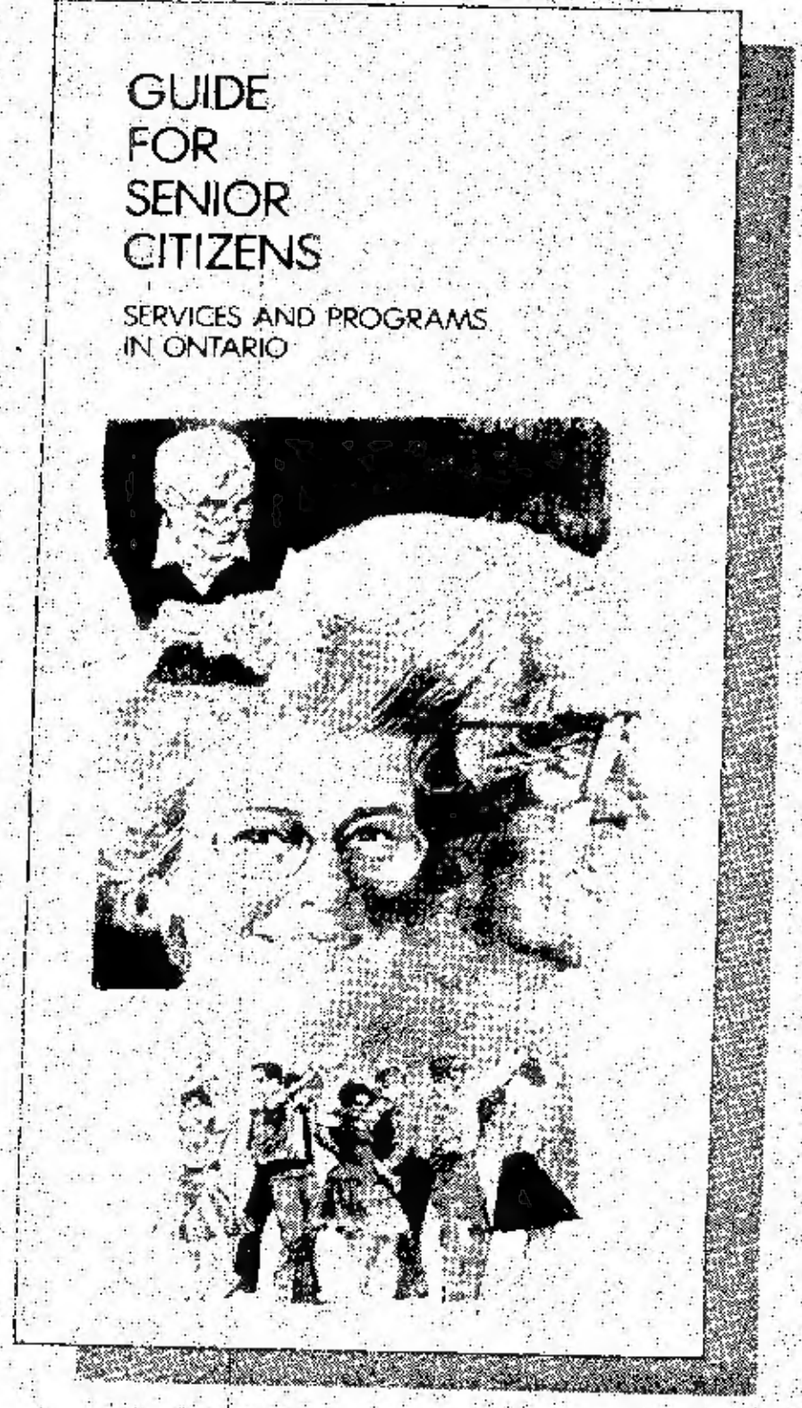

Ontario Senior Citizens now have their own guide to services and programs.

Ontario's Senior Citizens have contributed a great deal to our province, and to help ensure that they can enjoy healthier and more active lives, the Ontario Government has published a new booklet called "Guide for Senior Citizens". This handy reference guide describes the wide range of services and programs available for seniors in Ontario.

The Guide includes information on health care programs, housing assistance, tax grants, community clubs and centres, and many other subjects of interest to seniors in Ontario. By the end of February, all Ontario Senior Citizens who receive the Old Age pension will receive a copy of the Guide in the mail.

Others who would like a copy can write to:
Ontario Government Publications Centre, 5th Floor,
880 Bay Street, Toronto, Ontario M7A 1N8

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Book review

Nature, Spi and Science

By Dr. V.P. Madan

Nature, Spirituality and Science by Sukhraj Tarneja - Vikas Publishing House PVT Ltd., 5 Ansari Road, New Delhi, 247pp. 1980 Rs 95.

This book is a tribute to Nature, Spirituality and Science. The reason for writing such a book is two-fold (1) to educate the common man, who ought to know "something of everything", in a very broad sense and (2) to convey the message that it is not only the West that is knowledgeable or has been so. The East, particularly India, has a hand in world civilization and in its advancement. The author, a long term resident of Canada and U.S.A., feels, the West has tried to ignore the East, particularly India. This might be true because the Scriptures in which Vedic records exist are not easily accessible to the West due to lack of proper translations. In providing such translations, the author has made available records to convince modern minds that the ancient lore of East is not a bunch of cock and bull stories invented to put children to sleep. The book affirms that ancient India has been the cradle of science, the home of astrology and mathematics.

The answers to questions such as (1) where was the first man born and (2) whether there are other inhabited planets, stand recorded in the Vedic Scriptures as (1) the first man was born in Tribhastape (present Tibet) and that (2) human population exists on other planets. These views have now been endorsed by the Italian Anthropologist Chiarelli as well as other scientists (Ref: Science Year 1980, Year Book).

In the earlier part of the book, the author discusses the five basic elements such as the space, air, fire, the water and earth and also some important concepts of time, rhythms (movement, vibrations), energy from a variety of angles of grounds, scientific and otherwise. Concerning the nature of Life, the author writes that a proper composition of the five elements backed by conscious spirit (or soul) creates a "BEING or LIFE". A marvellous engineering skill must be at work in the making and running of this universe! This is evidenced from the several quotes referred to in the text from Upanishads, Taoism, the Bible and the Koran whose meanings are compared with the versions of modern science. For example, the words of Dada Vaswani and Leibnitz make an interesting study of the One Life: "There is one life, that wakes in man and dreams in animals and sleeps in plants." Linking the two worlds is a virus, which provides a bridge between the life and inanimate matter. Can one by Scientific and yet Spiritual? Dr. Jagdish Chandra Bose, a genius of India was a true scientist who demonstrated spiritual sensitivity along

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In the concluding chapter, the author proudly justifies India's achievements in the field of science. The records clearly demonstrate that atomic theory was taught during the time of Buddha. Indian scientists of 50 A.D. had known about nuclear fission. Plastic surgery was developed and practised in India as early as the first century of the Christian era. Ancient Indian medical treatises had established the spread of malaria through mosquitoes which is now proven to the satisfaction of Western medicine only in this century. There was a period of great activity and progress in literature and science, philosophy and metaphysics. Among those who had flourished were Patanjali, the philosopher; grammarian; Kautilya, the political scientist; Kalidasa, the dramatist; Charaka, the physician; Umasvati, the Jaina metaphysician. Works on astronomy were produced by Aryabhata and the decimal place-value notation was perfected by unknown mathematicians in India.

The reviewer would urge all persons regardless of their origin and faith to read this fascinating account. A copy of "Nature, Spirituality and Science" should serve an important means of information exchange with the friends of this subcontinent and prove a valuable asset to the whole family as well.

Carpet exports up

New Delhi, (UNI) - Carpet exports from the north Indian State of Jammu and Kashmir have shot up to 37.5 million dollars worth this year from a mere 0.84 million dollars in 1973-74, according to the Handicrafts Directorate report.

The report says the state achieved a growth rate of 125 per cent during 1974-80 and the overall rate of carpet export slumped to 80 per cent at the national level.

Production of carpets which stood at about 1.16 million dollars worth in 1973-74 has also registered a phenomenal growth and has gone up to 25 million dollars this year.

The state is only next to Iran in producing the finest quality of hand-knitted carpets in the world at present. The export market of this type of carpets is steadily going up as the Iranian share in it is dwindling due to its political instability.

NIOBIUM

Shillong, (UNI) - Niobium, a vital metal used in nuclear reactors will now be commercially produced for the first time in the country.

A pyrochlore concentration plant, from which the metal niobium is obtained, will be set up in the north-eastern state of Meghalaya by next year.

Niobium is used in nuclear reactors

Diamonds recovered

Bombay, (UNI) - Diamonds valued at 18,750 dollars lost by a businessman five months ago have been restored to him by the crime detection branch of the Bombay police.

According to police, the businessman had dropped the packet of diamonds in Zaveri Bazar in South Bombay. The packet was found by an 18-year-old youth who sold them to a peon (messenger) for a mere 125 dollars. The peon, in turn sold them to a broker for double the amount - 250 dollars.

Finally, the diamonds were bought by a merchant for a sum of 11,375 dollars. Police tracked down the merchant and others who sold the diamonds. However, no arrest has been made.

Court asks for blindings papers

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Supreme Court of India has directed the Bihar Government to produce the police diary, jail records, documents pertaining to remand, the CID report and the noting of the Inspector-General of Police, prisons, with regard to Anil Yadav and nine other undertrials allegedly blinded in Bhagalpur.

Chief Justice Y.V. Chandrachud and Justice E.S. Venkataramiah gave K.G. Bhagat, counsel for the Bihar Government, two weeks time to submit the documents.

Mrs. Kapil Hingorani, counsel for the petitioners, prayed for production of these original records on the ground that they were being tampered with. Besides, it would enable her to show to the court that the charges in some cases were filed after the blindings were done by the police.

Mr. Chandrachud observed that the Supreme Court had admitted the case because the matter was of great public importance. "We are greatly concerned about these (blinded) persons. It is the duty of the Bihar Government to take expeditious steps for rehabilitating them.

Who had blinded them was another matter, the Chief Justice noted.

This remark may perhaps indicate the Supreme Court's view that the charges against the police may have to be aired before the appropriate court in Bihar in the first instance, in confirmity with the criminal procedure code.

IDS marches on

The 1970's saw a new wave of immigrants to the shores of America from the Indian subcontinent. Without much delay many regional organizations mushroomed to meet the social and cultural needs of different ethnic immigrant groups of India. However, very few organizations emerged in this period with membership cutting across the ethnic and linguistic barriers and focussing less on the welfare of Indian residents in America and more on the welfare and development of millions of down trodden and forgotten Indians living in abject poverty in India.

India Development Service (IDS) of Chicago, one such organization - now in its sixth year, has compiled an impressive list of achievements. At present IDS has three major projects under way, viz. (1) rural integrated development in Dharwad district (Karnatak), (2) construction of schools in Vemagiri and Moolajampa villages (Andhra Pradesh) and (3) transfer of educational devices and programs to upgrade extra-curricular activities of a school in Maharashtra.

The driving force behind the rural integrated development project of IDS is Mr. Hiremath and his wife Mavis. After preliminary investigation and extensive study-visits, the village of Medleri and surrounding twenty one villages (Taluka: Ranibennur) with a total population of 25,000 was selected as the focal point of this project. The specific needs and available resources of the region have been surveyed and identified. In February, 1980, a rural development workshop was held at Ranibennur which was also attended by the local citizenery and other service organizations. It was followed by social action camp at Medleri in March. To start with the rural integrated project on right footing, a curative and preventive health program has been initiated in Medleri. In order to upgrade the skills of village dwellers a rural artisans projects has been undertaken.

The degree of enthusiastic support received by the project in Ranibennur Taluka is truly incredible. However, the need for funds persists as the taluka is one of the poorest areas of India.

IDS has also undertaken to support the construction of two schools in Vemagiri and Moolajampa, two villages in the Visakhapatanam district of Andhra Pradesh. Most of the construction is being done by volunteers of the villages. Dr. Parameswara Rao of the Bhagavatula Charitable Trust is co-ordinating this project in India.

IDS has now initiated a program to upgrade the educational quality of a school in India. The selected school is NMV High School (Pune, Maharashtra). The program is also open for other schools in other regions of India. It is hoped that such a program may act as a catalyst for other schools in the region. The program includes transfer of educational films, laboratory equipment and experimental devices.

In the United States, IDS conducted a seminar on small industry and investment opportunities in India. Attended by more than 100 people at Chicago in May 1980, the seminar dealt with such topics as export oriented industries, investment opportunities for non-resident Indians and starting one's own industry. A Transcript of the seminar is now available in the form of cassette tapes. In June 1980 IDS organized a meeting with Dr. Jagmohan Garg, and industrialist from India, in which the regressive integration procedure and import/export rules were discussed. In August 1980 a meeting with M.G. Shah, the chief additional secretary of the Gujarat government, was organized. In this meeting the opportunities for returning Indians to setup industry was discussed.

IDS has a great need for active members both in India and in the United States, fresh ideas on viable developmental projects and funds to bring them to frution. Donations are tax deductible. For further information contact Vrajesh Shah (312-850-3462) or IDS, P.O. Box 980, Chicago, Illinois 60690.

Accused in Pak's A-program

Montreal (CP) - Three Montrealers were ordered to appear in court on Feb. 27 on charges of violating export laws by shipping to Pakistan without permits electronic equipment that could be used to enrich uranium for nuclear weapons.

The case, which involves the sensitive diplomatic question of whether Pakistan is pursuing a nuclear weapons program, has attracted international notice.

Facing 28 charges each are Abdul Aziz Khan, 40, an engineer originally from Pakistan, Salam Elmenyawi, 31, a businessman originally from Egypt, and Mohammad Ahmad, 44 a mechanical specialist originally from India. The three, now Canadians, were charged after a visit to Montreal last year by two officials of Pakistan's atomic energy department.

Researchers honoured

D.P.S. Verma, Associate Professor of Biology, McGill University, Montreal; and Dr. M. Vidyasagar, Professor of Electrical Engineering, University of Waterloo are two of the recipients of 1981-82 E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowships awarded to promising young researchers.

The E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowships are Council's most prestigious awards and are made annually to outstanding young researchers in Canadian universities to permit them to devote their time entirely to their research for a period of up to two years. The amount of the awrad is equal to the recipient's normal salary.

TWO RACES

I saw that the ants were having a race
Running and running at a steady pace,
Helping each other;
If one fell/carefully they took him
To the place in which they dwell.

I saw that the ants were climbing up
None of them were in a huff;
They helped each other
Like sister and brother,
And so they reached the top.

Then I saw another race/of some strange creatures
Those which went fast
were stopped by those which were last;
They kicked each other and fought
like animals who had never been taught.

When some were climbing up
Others pulled them down,
With a big frown!
Nobody went ahead
They pulled each other's legs.

Watching their antics
I picked one of them/from the road
On which they ran,
I asked his name
And he replied/that he was 'MAN'

Sankrant
(12 years of age)

Third Telugu Conference to be held

The Third North America Telugu Conference sponsored by Telugu Association of North America (TANA) in cooperation with Telugu Association of Greater Chicago (TAGC), will be held on May 23 and 24, 1981, in Chicago.

There will be cultural music, art and dance programmes by distinguished artists and discussions on social issues, education, marriages, and economic aspects of Telugu people residing in North America. The great city of Chicago, a city of superlatives offers the world's tallest building, Sear's Tower, world's busiest airport, world's steel capital, capital of the convention world, world's first controlled atomic reaction at the University of Chicago, and 29 miles of frontage of Lake Michigan. Local accommodation and food arrangements will be made by the host committee for 2,500 people at this conference, including distinguished guests from India.

The Third North America
Telugu Conference
744 Franklin St.,
Westmont, Il.
60559, USA.
(312) 920-0030

Birla planetarium

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Birla Planetarium in Calcutta, the premier institution of its kind in the country, is also the only one to have a sophisticated observation device known as the universal type instrument.

This instrument can be set to present the starry skies for any latitude - in the northern or southern hemisphere, all stars up to 5.5 magnitude - a total of about 9,000 - are accurately set in their respective coordinates of right ascension and declination. The instrument can also be used for the study and set up of the planets, the sun and the moon through several centuries very accurately. An accurate cataloguing of the path of the sun as well as its meridian altitude through the days, weeks and months is an invaluable aid to architects and engineers in designing buildings for utilising the optimum flow of sunlight.

Aluminum complex in Orissa

New Delhi, (UNI) - India and France have signed a technical collaboration agreement for setting up an aluminium complex, the largest in this country. The 1,552.5 million dollar project, to be based in the Eastern state of Orissa, will get a massive Euro-dollar loan of 630 million dollar which has already been underwritten by a consortium of banks.

The agreement was signed between Aluminium Pechiney of France and the newly formed Indian public sector company National Aluminium Company (NAICO).

York interagency council

A conference on Multiculturalism in the Borough of York is being held on Friday, February 13, 1981. It is being held at York Memorial Collegiate Institute, 2690 Eglinton Avenue West (at the corner of Keele and Eglinton) from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.

It is being held primarily for professionals - educator, social workers, health care providers - however, the public is welcome. Dr. Jamshed Mavalwala, Professor of Anthropology, University of Toronto, will speak on "the individual as ambassador". Dr. George Bancroft, the Executive Director of the Citizenship Division of the Ministry of Culture and Recreation will speak about Multi-Culturalism and its implications. There are a wide variety of topics covered in the different workshops.

York Interagency Council
Donna Tettmar, President
2700 Eglinton Ave. West,
Toronto, Ontario
M6M 1V1.

Deep sea fishing

Cochin, (UNI) - India's marine products exports are likely to decline during the current year despite the Government's aim to double exports in the next three years, according to the Association of Indian Fisheries Industries (AIFI).

India exported a record 260 million dollars worth of marine products during 1979-80 AIFI President N.P. Singh said here. Since primarily Indian exports were made up of shrimps, mostly brought by the Japanese, the country's exports were incapable of a sudden expansion, he explained.

Mr. Singh suggested that India go in for international joint ventures to achieve better export targets. India had recently acquired an economic zone two million square kilometres in area, with a harvestable yield of over four million tonnes of fish, as against the current harvest of just one-third of this.

Jim Fleming on the Constitution

As Minister of State for Multiculturalism, I am pleased to inform you that my colleague, the Honourable Jean Chretien, Minister of Justice has placed before the Special Joint Committee on the Constitution a series of amendments to the proposed Constitutional Resolution. I believe the proposed changes indicate clearly that the Government has listened carefully to the views of Canadians on this important issue. One of these amendments, in particular, makes me extremely proud. A new section (Section 26) will be added which will state that the Charter of Rights "shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with the preservation and enhancement of the multicultural heritage of Canadians".

It is particularly gratifying that the Government has responded in such a significantly positive way to the concerns expressed to both myself and directly to the Constitutional Committee by my advisory council, the Canadian Consultative Council on Multiculturalism. These concerns were also voiced by many other national organizations which submitted briefs to the Committee.

Entrenching the concept of Multiculturalism in the Canadian constitution, a document which represents the fundamental national framework for all Canadians, present and future has been a long sought goal of the many ethnocultural communities in Canada.

I can think of no better way of beginning the tenth year of the establishment of the official policy of Multiculturalism. But it is only the beginning of the work we all must do together to ensure the well being of Canada and the Canadian identity.

Barbers lose out

New Delhi, (UNI) - Among the skilled and semi-skilled workers leaving for the gulf countries to seek new job opportunities are the "osthans", Muslim barbers of Kerala.

Their traditional occupation -- shaving the heads of the devout Muslims and carrying out the circumcision operation on young Muslim boys -- now finds little scope, with the advance of modernity among the community. Fewer people, particularly among the younger age groups shave their heads. They prefer modern haircuts and for this they do not prefer the "osthans". As for circumcision, the practice still continues, but most people among the younger generation prefer to have this operation done by surgeons in hospitals.

Thus, finding their ancient occupation gone -- or going -- the "osthans" are seeking new pastures. The oil-rich gulf countries offer a land of promise for them.

Medical experts say the "osthans", with their crude instruments, no longer appeal to the educated Muslim masses. Moreover, it is said that the instruments used by them are often unsterilised.

Even the method of modern hairdressing is posing a serious challenge to the traditional "osthans". Barring certain orthodox muslims and "mullahs", few muslims approach them for a haircut. But they are still called in when the newborn has its first haircut.

Faced with the realities of life, the "osthans" are forced to seek the means of their livelihood elsewhere. If this situation persists for another decade, "osthans" may virtually disappear from Kerala.

According to a local doctor, an average of 40 Muslim doctors graduate from the medical colleges in Kerala state every year and they are a potential threat to the "osthans". There are about 400 Muslim doctors in the state. They are ready to perform circumcision on the young Muslim boys, as ordained by custom.

Osthans in Kottayam in central Kerala recently protested against the local Islamic Cultural Association for organising a free circumcision camp for Muslim boys and employing trained surgeons for the ritual operation.

R.I.P.

Smoke Detectors do save lives!
Les détecteurs de fumée sauvent des vies!

It is the building owner's or manager's responsibility to install and maintain smoke detectors in each building unit. Maintenance includes battery replacement and repairs.

It is the tenant's responsibility to notify the owner or manager in writing that the smoke alarm requires maintenance or that it is not operating properly.

Information: 233-9386
(Fire Prevention)

City of Ottawa

Il incombe aux propriétaires ou gérants d'édifices d'installer et d'entretenir des détecteurs de fumée dans chaque logis. L'entretien compend le remplacement des piles et les réparations.

Il incombe aux locataires d'informer par écrit le propriétaire ou le gérant que le détecteur de fumée a besoin d'entretien ou qu'il ne fonctionne pas bien.

Renseignements: 233-9386
(Service de la prévention des incendies)

Ville d'Ottawa

KITCHEN K

By Pranati SenGupta

Food prices being what they are, waste a thing these days. Leftovers challenge for a cook after a big party like me, always worrying about the end up cooking a lot more than impossible to ask family or friends to for the next few days. But it may store the leftovers in the freezer until urge to create something special. Wi possible to freeze the leftovers, packages and mark each package for may prepare Indian-style chops, copt simple casserole. Tucked away in th packages can be lifesavers on a bu enjoys freshly cooked hot meat curri try finely shredded or chopped le between slices of hot buttered toas sliced cucumbers? Try this lamb ti leftover meat. It is delicious and tak prepare. This recipe can be follo leftover vegetables.

LAMB TIKKA

Wrappers:
1½ lbs. potatoes
1 large onion finely chopped
2 tbsp. ghee
1 tsp. salt or to taste
½ tsp. chili powder
½ tsp. cumin powder
1/8 tsp. turmeric
Pinch of sugar
1 tsp. lemon juice

Filling:
1 cup finely diced, cooked leftover la
1 cup coarsely chopped drained cann
¼ cup finely chopped onion
1½ tsp. finely chopped gingerroot
1 green chili, chopped
1 or 2 tbsp. lamb gravy or thick yogu
1 large egg beaten with 1 tbsp. milk
½ cup dry bread crumbs
Deep fat for frying

Boil unpeeled potatoes until ten through ricer or mash until no lump chili, cumin, turmeric, salt and sug frying pan, add ghee and fry onio potatoes. Stir and cook for 8 to 10 m heat. Add lemon juice and set aside

In a bowl, mix cooked lamb, musl chili, and onion. Add a little gravy fr moisten the mixture. To make Tikka scant 2 tablespoon portions, pat into thick and place about 1 tbsp. filling potato. Bring sides together to enc into patties. When all are finished, egg mixture. Transfer to a shallo crumbs, roll gently until well coated but not touching, on a plate. Chi without cover for 2 hours or ove serving, deep-fry, a few at a time, paper and serve hot. Or bake 10 to pan in 400F preheated oven.

Sprinkle a little salt and black pe remaining hot ghee in frying pan o lemon juice over the roes. Garnis coriander leaves.

Export bank to

New Delhi, (UNI) - The Indian cabinet has approved the setting up of the export-import bank with wide functions to finance, promote and develop trade.

Envisaged to be a fully government-owned statutory corporation it will have powers to borrow from abroad besides the Reserve Bank of India.

A bill setting up the Corporation will be introduced in the Parliament during the next budget session commencing in February.

Besides taking over all functions of the international finance wing of the Industrial Development Bank of India, the EXIM bank will finance imports, undertake merchant and development banking, finance promotional activities and discharge counselling service.

KITCHEN KORNER

By Pranati SenGupta

Food prices being what they are, no one can afford to waste a thing these days. Leftovers pose an undeniable challenge for a cook after a big party, especially if you are like me, always worrying about the quantity of food, and end up cooking a lot more than you need to. It is impossible to ask family or friends to eat the same dishes for the next few days. But it may be economical if you store the leftovers in the freezer until the time you feel the urge to create something special. With planning, it's even possible to freeze the leftovers, wrap them in small packages and mark each package for a special dish. You may prepare Indian-style chops, coptas, croquettes or just simple casserole. Tucked away in the freezer, these little packages can be lifesavers on a busy day. Everybody enjoys freshly cooked hot meat curries. But did you ever try finely shredded or chopped leftover curried meat between slices of hot buttered toasts with some thinly sliced cucumbers? Try this lamb tikka recipe with your leftover meat. It is delicious and takes very little time to prepare. This recipe can be followed with any other leftover vegetables.

LAMB TIKKA

Wrappers:
1½ lbs. potatoes
1 large onion finely chopped
2 tbsp. ghee
1 tsp. salt or to taste
½ tsp. chili powder
½ tsp. cumin powder
1/8 tsp. turmeric
Pinch of sugar
1 tsp. lemon juice

Filling:
1 cup finely diced, cooked leftover lamb (without gravy)
1 cup coarsely chopped drained canned mushrooms
¼ cup finely chopped onion
1½ tsp. finely chopped gingerroot
1 green chili, chopped
1 or 2 tbsp. lamb gravy or thick yogurt
1 large egg beaten with 1 tbsp. milk (for coating)
½ cup dry bread crumbs
Deep fat for frying

Boil unpeeled potatoes until tender. Peel and put through ricer or mash until no lumps remain. Blend in chili, cumin, turmeric, salt and sugar. Heat one large frying pan, add ghee and fry onion until golden, add potatoes. Stir and cook for 8 to 10 minutes over medium heat. Add lemon juice and set aside to cool.

In a bowl, mix cooked lamb, mushrooms, ginger root, chili, and onion. Add a little gravy from lamb or yogurt to moisten the mixture. To make Tikka, divide potatoes into scant 2 tablespoon portions, pat into ovals about 4 inches thick and place about 1 tbsp. filling in the centre of the potato. Bring sides together to encase filling and mold into patties. When all are finished, dip one at a time into egg mixture. Transfer to a shallow dish holding bread crumbs, roll gently until well coated and set, side by side but not touching, on a plate. Chill in the refrigerator without cover for 2 hours or overnight. Just before serving, deep-fry, a few at a time, in 400F fat. Drain on paper and serve hot. Or bake 10 to 15 minutes in greased pan in 400F preheated oven.

Sprinkle a little salt and black pepper. Then pour the remaining hot ghee in frying pan over the roes. Sprinkle lemon juice over the roes. Garnish with green chili and coriander leaves.

Export bank to be set up

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The bank will be the lead bank in the matter of finance and promoting exports, the principal financial institution for co-ordinating the working of institutions engaged in financing and promoting export and import of goods. It will be the apex body for assisting and supporting such institutions.

INDIAN SCIENTISTS ACHIEVE A BREAKTHROUGH IN PLASMA HEATING

Bangalore, (UNI) - Indian scientists at the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) in Ahmedabad (Gujarat) have achieved a major breakthrough in plasma heating by fabricating a device capable of producing extremely powerful beams of electrons travelling with almost the speed of light.

New runway for Delhi

New Delhi, (UNI) - Palam airport in Delhi will have a new runway parallel to the present one when the new international passenger terminal is commissioned in 1985.

Work will begin this month on the new air terminal, designed to handle 3.3 million passengers a year.

The two-level terminal building, shaped like a truncated triangle, will have the capacity to handle arriving and departing passengers on two separate floors. Embarking passengers will come in at the first floor and passengers disembarking will be attended to at ground level.

Barber's pride

New Delhi, (UNI) - Barbers in Pakistan have decided to ban the use of English words like barbers, beautician, hairdressing saloon and beauty parlours.

According to a press release issued by Islam Salmani, Secretary General of the Pakistan National Hairdressers' Federation, it is necessary and proper to erase "the traces of foreign domination over the honourable art and craft of hairdressing and beauty culture."

Mr. Salmani has urged poets, writers, authors and journalists to coin Urdu equivalents which can be easily understood and which will benefit the dignity of the profession.

Dakotas out

New Delhi, (UNI) - The phasing out of the Dakota, the oldest aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF), has stated. Nicknamed by IAF personnel as "hawai tonga", the Dakota was inducted in the IAF in 1947.

As a first step, the Dakota is being replaced in the eastern sector with MI-8 helicopters.

These helicopters would constitute a force of sufficient magnitude and capacity as a final solution to keep the lifeline to the remotest areas open.

Rise in crime

Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), UNI) - On an average fifteen murders and ten dacoities were committed every day in Uttar Pradesh, India's largest state, last year, according to official sources.

The crime situation showed little improvement, with the number of murders going up by 1.7 per cent and the number of illicit weapons seized registering a sizeable increase compared to 1979.

Though many dreaded dacoits were killed last year, quite a few were still operating in well-organised gangs.

Uttar Pradesh Inspector-General of Police Mahender Singh held a meeting with senior district police officials on January 14, at Kalpi in Jalun district, to chalk out a strategy to meet the menace of the dacoit gangs now operating in the area.

Demand for spices

New Delhi, (UNI) - Kuwait and Saudi Arabia are among the major importers of Indian spices; others are some of the West Asian countries, the Soviet Union and a number of European countries.

Spices are exported to nearly 60 countries and are one of the biggest foreign exchange earners for India. India exported spices worth 202.125 million dollars in 1978-79 as against 176.3 million dollars in 1977-78.

India produces a wide range of spices to meet the domestic and the foreign demands. The major spices India is producing are pepper, cardamon, turmeric, ginger and chillies. Coriander, cumin, celery and garlic are other products exported by India.

Pepper, which is the major export item in the range of spices, occupies the top place. The demand in East European countries and the Soviet Union has provided a filip to pepper exports. From 13.85 million dollars in 1966-67, the value of pepper exports increased to 20.2 million dollars in 1969-70.

Cochin refinery slow down

Cochin, (UNI) - Production of petrol, furnace oil and liquified petroleum gas (LPG) in the public sector Cochin Refineries has fallen substantially following a two-week-old "go slow" agitation by the refinery staff who are demanding ex-gratia payment in lieu of bonus and more promotional avenues.

As a result, movement of petroleum products by rail has dropped by one-third from the normal loading of 150 wagons daily. While production of LPG had to be slashed by half, its movement by road had also come down to one-third of the normal loading of 3,300 cylinders.

The continued disruption in the supply of LPG cylinders has resulted in a huge backlog in the replacement of refills in many parts of the southern Indian states of Kerala, Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

The agitation will also affect the free availability of petroleum products in Kerala State, it is feared.

India Lanka talks

Colombo, (UNI) - Indian and Sri Lankan Finance Ministers have worked out details of a 12.5 million dollar line of credit being extended by India to Sri Lanka. Proposals to set up joint ventures were also discussed at a meeting which constituted the first round of talks between the two ministers on bilateral economic cooperation.

The Indian Finance Minister R. Venkataraman is in Colombo at the invitation of his Sri Lankar counterpart Ronnie De Mel. His visit assumes more than usual significance, as this is the first visit of an Indian Minister to this country after Mrs. Gandhi assumed office as the Prime Minister.

Elephants are shy

Chandigarh (Punjab), (UNI) - Elephants, unlike other animals, feel shy to mate in the public view, according to a zoologist.

Dr. Venod Sharma, veterinary surgeon at the Chhabir Zoological Park near here, said, on the basis of his study of animal behaviour in the zoo, that elephants get through the sex act in a few seconds. Female elephants attain puberty at the age of seven or eight years and the males at the age of ten.

Elephants' reluctance to mate in the confines of the park visited by large crowds has set a problem for the zoo authorities. There are only two pairs of jumbos in the park and if their continued shyness results in voluntary family limitation, the plans to make Chhabir Zoological Park the biggest in Asia would be upset.

In the absence of animal exchange arrangements with other zoos, it is also difficult for Chhabir to acquire elephants to add to the number.

Artisans to be helped

Trivandrum (UNI) - The Kerala Government would soon set up an Artisans Development Corporation to develop handicrafts and provide more job opportunities to artisans, according to Industries Minister P C Chacko.

Mr. Chacko in a statement to the State Assembly said that the proposed Corporation would have a marketing wing and artisand dealing with wood, stone, iron, silver and gold would particularly benefit from it.

Preliminary work on units to manufacture items like precision measuring equipment, mineral water, veneer and craft paper were in progress in the state, Mr. Chacko said.

India's donation

New Delhi, (UNI) - India has given $50,000 to the Trust Fund of the International Trade Centre (ITC). An agreement to this effect has been signed here by the Commerce Secretary, P.K. Kaul, and the Executive Director of ITC, Dr. P.C. Alexander.

This is the first formal donar agreement covering a voluntary contribution to ITC by a developing country. The money will be utilised by ITC in organising two semmars for the benefit of officers from the least developed countries of Asia and Africa.

CLASSIFIEDS

Matrimonials

Punjaoi Hindu youngman, 22, height 5'-4", Canadian immigrant, well settled, looking for a suitable match. Please call (403) 248-6239.

Correspondence invited from attractive ladies in twenties for a highly placed clean-shaven Sikh engineer, 5'-10", handsome, sophisticated, US citizen. Contact 712-220 Woodridge, Nepean, Ont. K2B 8G1.

Suitable matured gentleman required for a slim, well educated, professional nurse, mid-thirties, 5'-4" tall, Canadian citizen, well settled and independent. Caste no bar. For further particulars please write to M-1760, The Canadian India Times.

Correspondence invited from well educated, good looking Indian men, 25-30 years, well settled in Canada, for our good looking, well groomed MEA daughter. Reply M-1761, The Canadian India Times.

Punjabi boy 27, 5'-8", smart, well qualified, computer programmer. Looking for beautiful, homely, recently migrated girl. Reply M-1762, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted suitable match for Christian girl, 23, from India. B.Ed., 5'-4" tall. Please correspond M-1763, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable immigrant boy for a very well educated Brahamin girl. Reply M-1765, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for a graduate Hindu-Punjabi girl, 22, 5'-4", charming personality, recent immigrant, respectable family in Canada. Please write details with photograph to M-1764, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited from a beautiful, educated Jat Sikh girl, immigrant or citizen, at least 5'-2", for a Jat Sikh, 25, swift, engineer, government service, Canadian citizen. Whole family very well settled in Canada. Early marriage call (514) 626-0728 or write with photo to M-1766, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted a suitable match for Punjabi Hindu, professional boy, 22, currently visiting brother in Canada. Caste no bar. M-1767, The Canadian India Times.

Matrimonial correspondence invited for a professional, pretty Agarwal girl, 28, 5'-3", fair complexion. Interested persons with good family background should apply in writing with full details to M-1768, The Canadian India Times, or phone (709)-673-4470.

Punjabi Hindu parents of handsome, well-rounded, ambitious, qualified engineer, 23, 5'-9", Canadian citizen, starting M.B.A. in 1981 invites correspondence from tall, slim, fair, beautiful girl 20-21 studying for a professional degree in North America. Reply with returnable photogrh to M-1757, The Canadian India Times.

U.S. immigrant, 29, U.S. educated, excellently established, very handsome, tall, Agarwal, architect (M.Arch) seeks beautiful match in India or abroad. Visiting India February, 1981. Write with returnable photograph, Box 194, Honolulu, Hawaii 96810 (808-922-8920).

Suitable match preferably in Canada for a divorced Rajput girl, 25, attractive, homely, M.A. Economics, working in States. Also for her younger brother, 23, graduate, extremely handsome, tall and athletic, working in India. Caste no bar. M-1737, The Canadian India Times.

Suitable Ramgarhia match required for an educated, employed Ramgarhia girl age21 years, height 5'-1"). Canadian citizen and family well settled in Canada for last 14 years. For details and further information please write to M-1756, The Canadian India Times.

MARRIAGE MATCHERS

Looking for a Match?
It is easier and faster to find a more suitable partner through us.

MARRIAGE MATCHERS
P.O. Box 208, E. Rutherford, N.J. 07073

SOVIET AMBASSADOR DEFENDS INDIAN OCEAN PEACE ZONE PLEA

Trivandrum, (UNI) - The Soviet Union was "very much interested" in maintaining the Indian Ocean as a Zone of peace and was prepared to withdraw its naval units if the United States first withdrew its fleet, Soviet Ambassador Y M. Vorontsov said here.

Speaking on "Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace" organised by the Indo-Soviet Cultural Society, Mr. Vorotnsov said the Soviet ships were in the Indian Ocean as the presence of American warships with nuclear weapons was a threat to the security of the Soviet Union."

Problems of tourism industry

New Delhi, (UNI) - India's Tourism Ministry's plan to expand and register a 15 per cent annual growth by luring 3.5 million tourists by 1990 seems impossible to realize within the target period.

The main reason for this could be the refusal of the Government to recognize tourism as a priority industry and provide adequate incentives to the constituents of the industry so that they may play a more aggressive role in marketing and selling India abroad.

It has been pointed out that both the travel agencies and the hotel industry have been denied the necessary concessions. On the contrary, hotels will now be subjected to a 15 per cent surcharge on total earnings from Indian clients and 10 per cent from foreign clients.

The Government's investment policy is also said to be responsible for the prevailing malise. With only petro dollars (subject to a maxium of 40 per cent) being allowed to be invested in soft sectors like hotels, and the policy regarding investment of Euro and American dollars still dangling in ambiguity, prospects for the tourism industry indeed appear bleak. Besides, Indians living abroad have not been given any concessions to invest.

Profit for FACT

Cochin, (UNI) - After incurring heavy losses continuously for the last ten years, the public sector undertaking, Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Limited) (FACT) has made a net profit of 8.125 million dollars during 1979-80.

This was the highest profit made by FACT so far in its 35-year history. Chairman and Managing Director P K. Narayanaswamy told the annual general meeting of the company. He said the company had sustained a loss of over 6.9 million dollars in the previous year (1978-79).

Dr. Narayanaswamy said that marked improvement in all the company's operations, industrial harmony and the new retention prices announced by the Government for FACT products were responsible for the year's encouraging working results which revealed an overall surplus of 15.35 million dollars (against 2.6 million dollars last year).

Joint ventures

New Delhi, (UNI) - The state-owned Overseas Development and Employment Promotion Consultancy Limited (ODEPC), the first of its kind in India, is planning to set up in Kerala joint ventures with part of the share capitals to be collected from Keralites overseas.

The ODEPC is also considering a proposal to set up a spinning mill in Kerala. It may also take up projects like housing for Keralites living abroad.

The ODEPC was started by the Kerala Government with specific purpose of saving innocent job-seekers from exploiters who extracted money in exchange for jobs abroad. In a large number of cases the job-seekers were cheated.

In the three years of its existence, ODEPC has found jobs for about a thousand people in foreign countries.

INDO-CANADIAN WOMEN'S CIRCLE

announces the opening of The

Drop-in Centre

for the ladies of our community
every WEDNESDAY MORNING 9:30 -11:30.

PLACE: Indo-Canadian Community Centre,
1946 Bank St.
Ottawa

You are invited to come as often as you wish and stay as long as you wish. Bring your pre-school children, friends.

Come- Exchange ideas. Discuss your interest and needs

Refreshments will be served. There are several buses that come to Billings Bridge area from all parts of the city.

For information call:

Vasanthi Srinivasan 829-0504.
Chandrika Shah 829-3130.
Nandita Bhatnagar 825-2071.

FUTURE ACTIVITIES - WORKSHOPS

Feb. 22 - Raising Children in a Multicultural Society
March 18th - Ottawa Women's Credit Union - will speak about their organization.
April 12th - Legal Status in Canada.

Refreshments will be served curtesy ICA.

May 23rd - Annual Cultural Show to raise money for Association for Handicapped and Indo-Canadian Community Centre.

Pirri's Dixieland Market Ltd

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Wholesale: 1052 Birchmount Rd. (1 block N. of Eglinton Ave.), Scarborough, Phone: 759-5214

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ADDRESS.....Postal Code.....

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603 CATHERINE ST. OTTAWA, CANADA, K1R 5T6